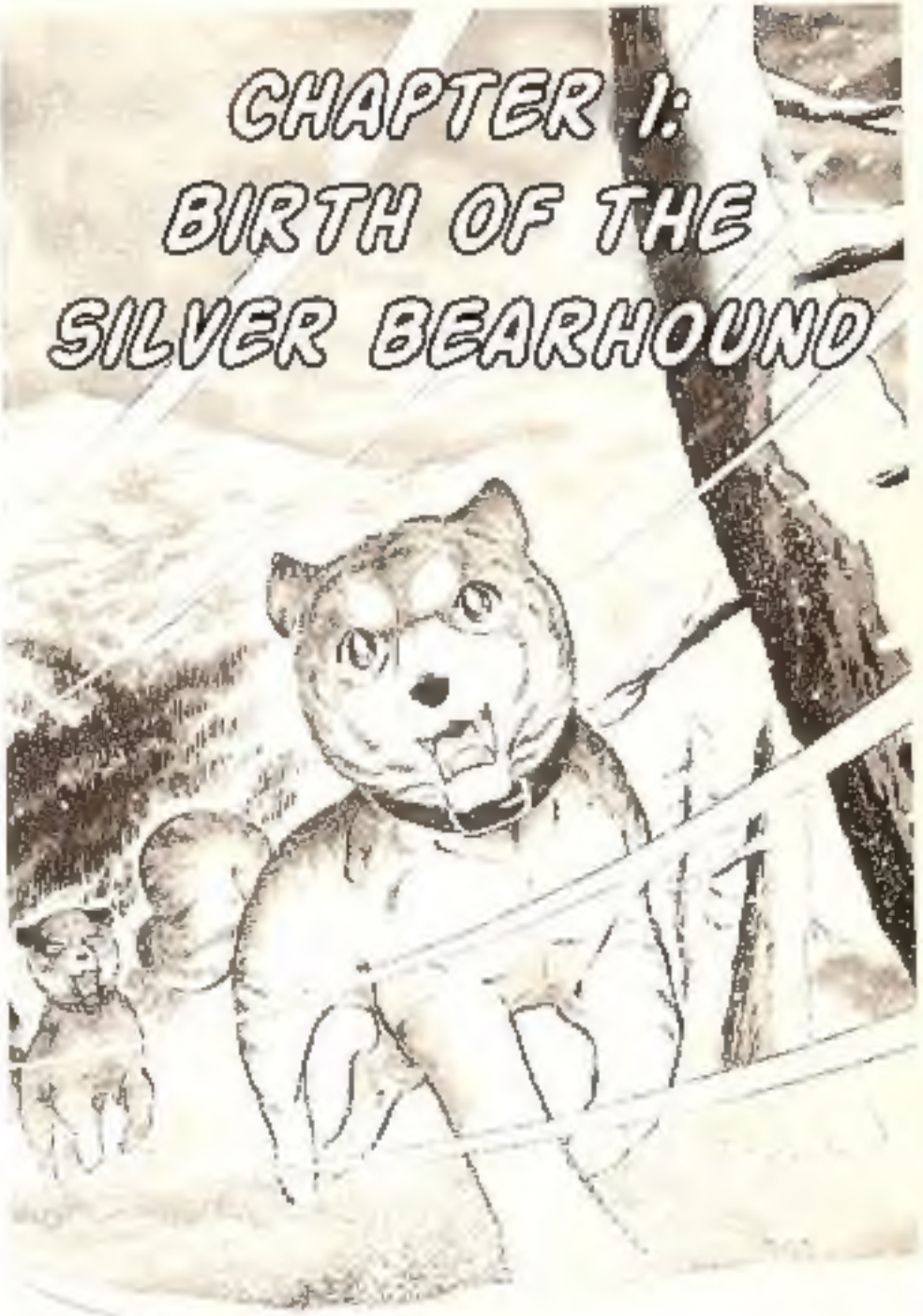
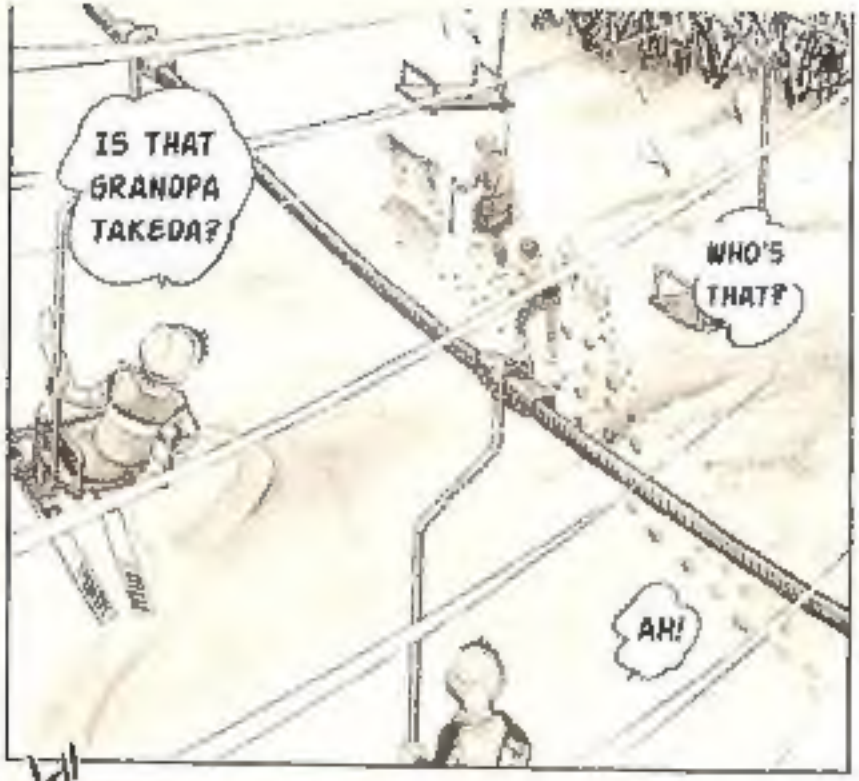
ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY:
KEI

EDITING BY:
WWW.GINGASITE.NET

CHAPTER 1: BIRTH OF THE SILVER BEARHOUND




IS THAT GRANDPA TAKEDA?
WHO'S THAT?
AH!

WHERE'S HE GOING WITH THAT GUN ON HIS SHOULDER?
IT IS.. AND RIKI IS WITH HIM!

HE DOESN'T SCARE ME!
THAT GUY IS REALLY SCARY WHEN HE'S ANGRY.

GRANDPA TAKEDA'S BEARHOUND RIKI IS THE FATHER.
AH, YES.. ONLY 2-3 DAYS TO GO NOW MY FATHER SAID.

SHE'LL HAVE PUPPIES SOON, RIGHT?
DAISUKE, YOUR DOG FUJI..

BUT EVEN NOW, HE IS STILL STRONG AND CAPABLE OF TAKING DOWN STRONG BEARS.
GOHEI TAKEDA WAS 67 YEARS OLD.

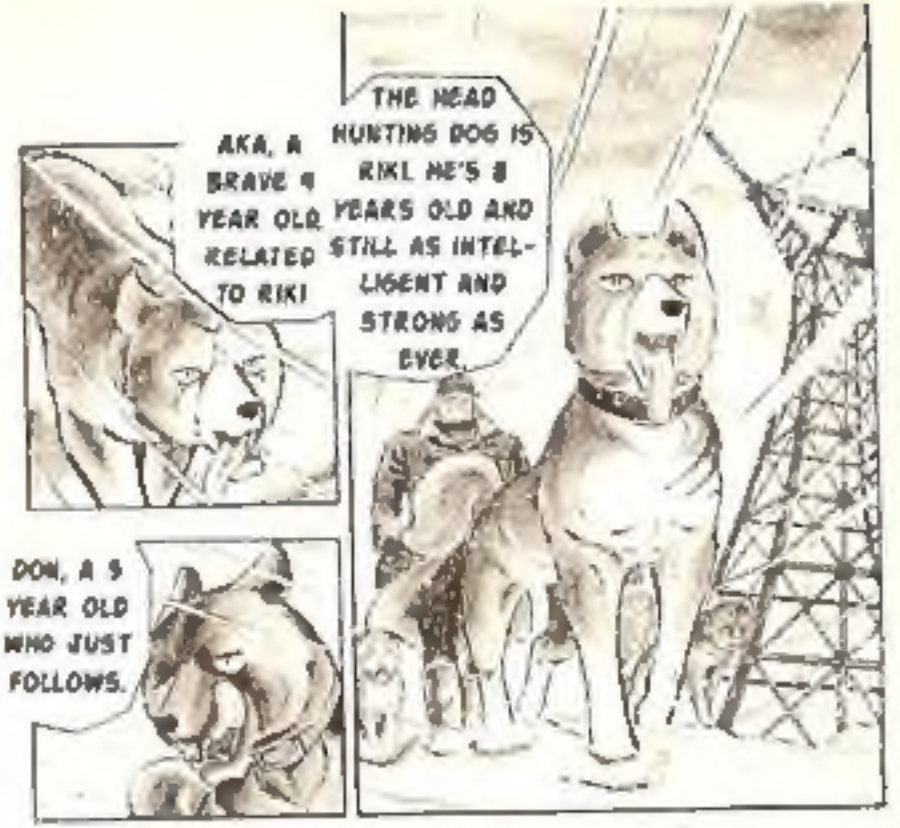
HE'S SKILLFUL WITH A GUN, BUT DRINKS TOO MUCH AT TIMES. HE OFTEN TAKES THE VILLAGERS OUT ON BEAR HUNTS.
HE'S THE ONLY PERSON IN THE VILLAGE WHO HUNTS WITH BEARHOUNDS.

DAISUKE! SHUT YOUR DAMN MOUTH!
AIEE!
SHIT.. THE VILLAGE HEAD IS WITH HIM!

WHINE

YOUR PUPS!
RIKU FUJI'S GONNA HAVE HER PUPPIES SOON!

FIVE YEARS AGO, GRANDPA TAKEDA'S LEFT EAR WAS TORN OFF BY THE GIANT BEAR, AKAKA-BUTO.


AKA, A BRAVE 4 YEAR OLD RELATED TO RIKI
THE HEAD HUNTING DOG IS RIKI. HE'S 8 YEARS OLD AND STILL AS INTELLIGENT AND STRONG AS EVER.
DON, A 5 YEAR OLD WHO JUST FOLLOWS.

HMM ...
HE'S NOT ALONE NOW...

MAYBE HE'S GOING TO KILL AKA-KABUTO!

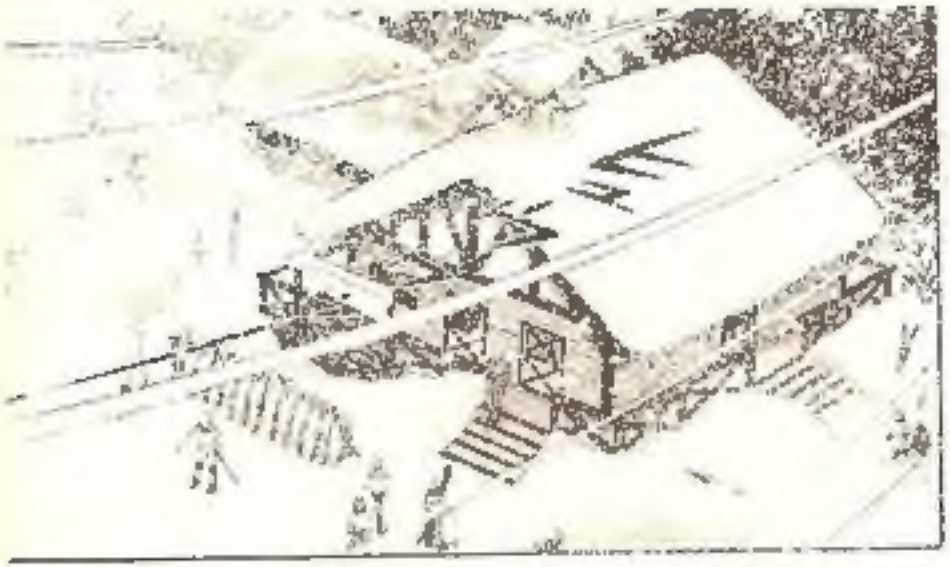
HE AND RIKI USUALLY GO TO SHOOT RABBITS AND BIRDS.
HE MAY BE OFF TO HUNT...

GRR !
GUAA H!
KYAAAH !
AURRGH !

AKAKABUTO WAS NAMED SO BECAUSE OF A RED LINE OF HAIR DOWN HIS BACK. HE'S DIFFERENT FROM OTHER BEARS.
HIS SIZE IS GIANT, ALIKE A TYPE OF GIANT BEAR CALLED A "HIGUMA".

YIPE!
AFTER THE WOUND WAS INFLICTED, AKAKABUTO WENT INTO A RIOT
HE FELL FROM A CLIFF INTO THE RIVER BELOW, TAKING SHIRO WITH HIM, WHOM HE HELD PINNED BETWEEN HIS JAWS.

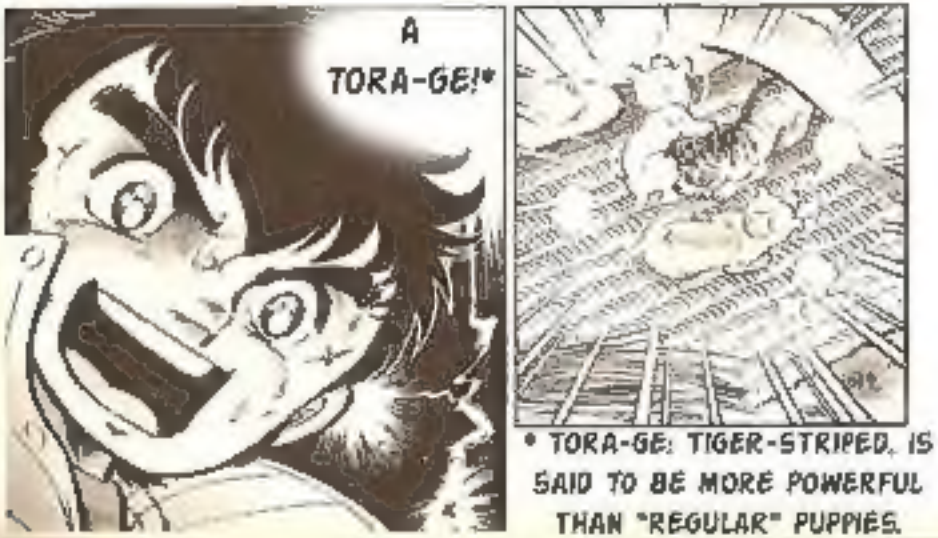
GOHEI HELD HIS POSITION AND FIRED!
RIKI'S FATHER, SHIRO, DEFENDED GOHEI WITH ALL OF HIS STRENGHT.
THE BULLET HIT DIRECTLY IN THE RIGHT EYE, PIERCING AKAKABUTO'S BRAIN.
AFTER THE SHOT, GOHEI BEGAN TO FADE AWAY...



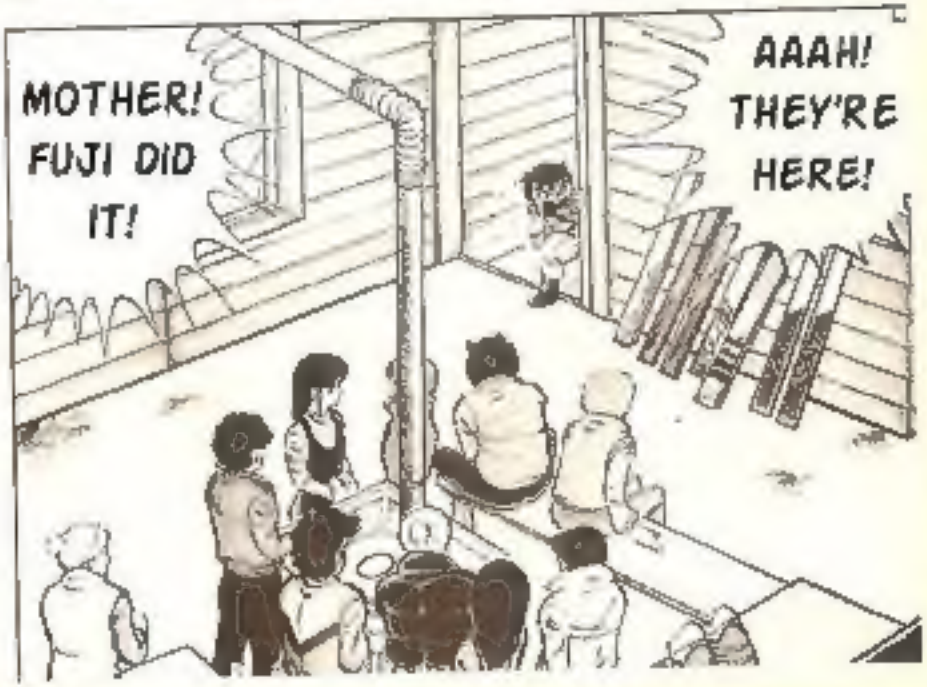
NOW I CAN'T EVEN GO SKIING.
DAMN, THE SNOW IS GETTING HEAVIER.
タタタタ…

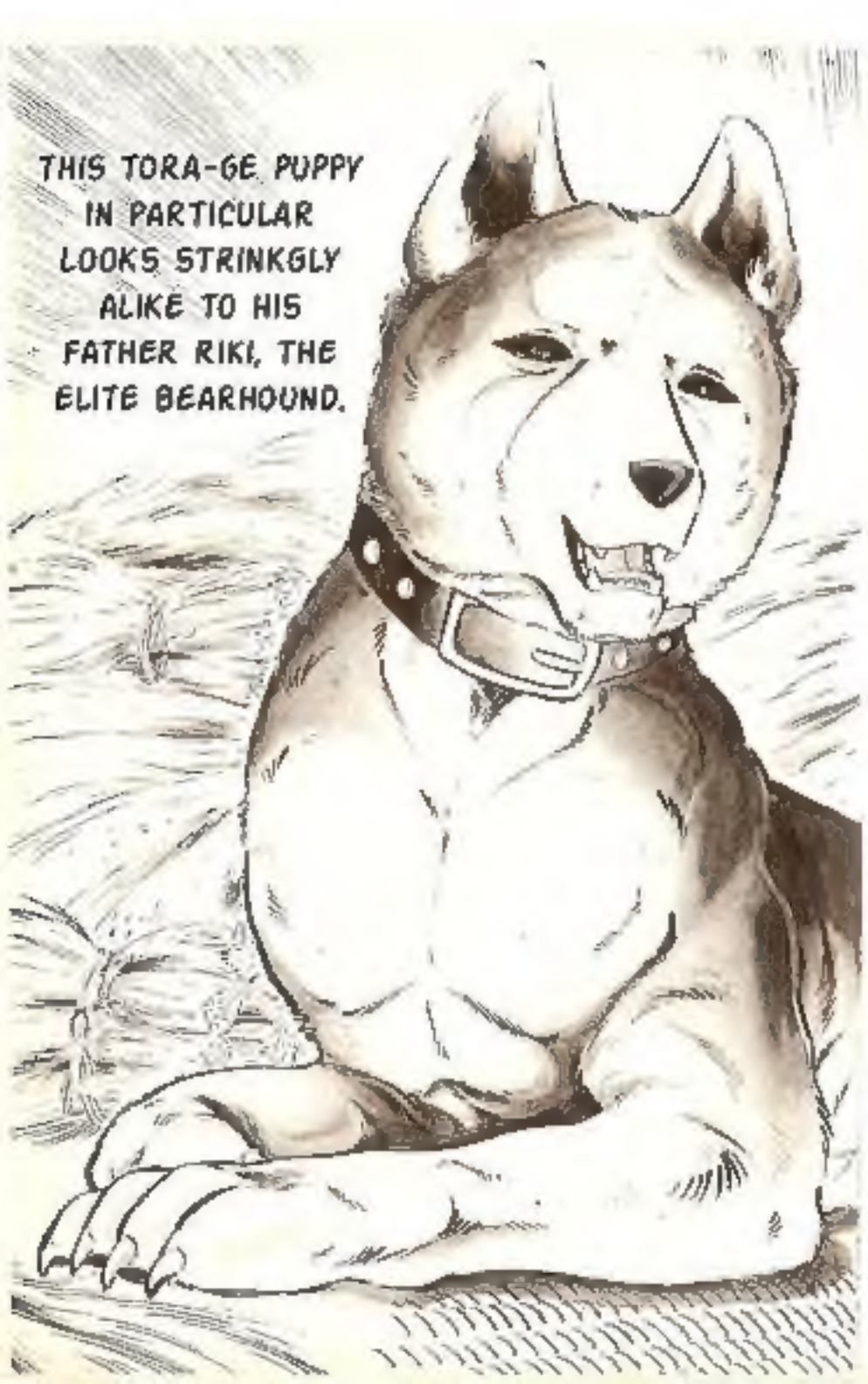
I SAW THEM GO TO THE MOUNTAIN ALONE... HE HE
DON'T WORRY, THEY CAN TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES.
HEY..! KAZUE AND TOSHIAKI ARE STILL OUT THERE!

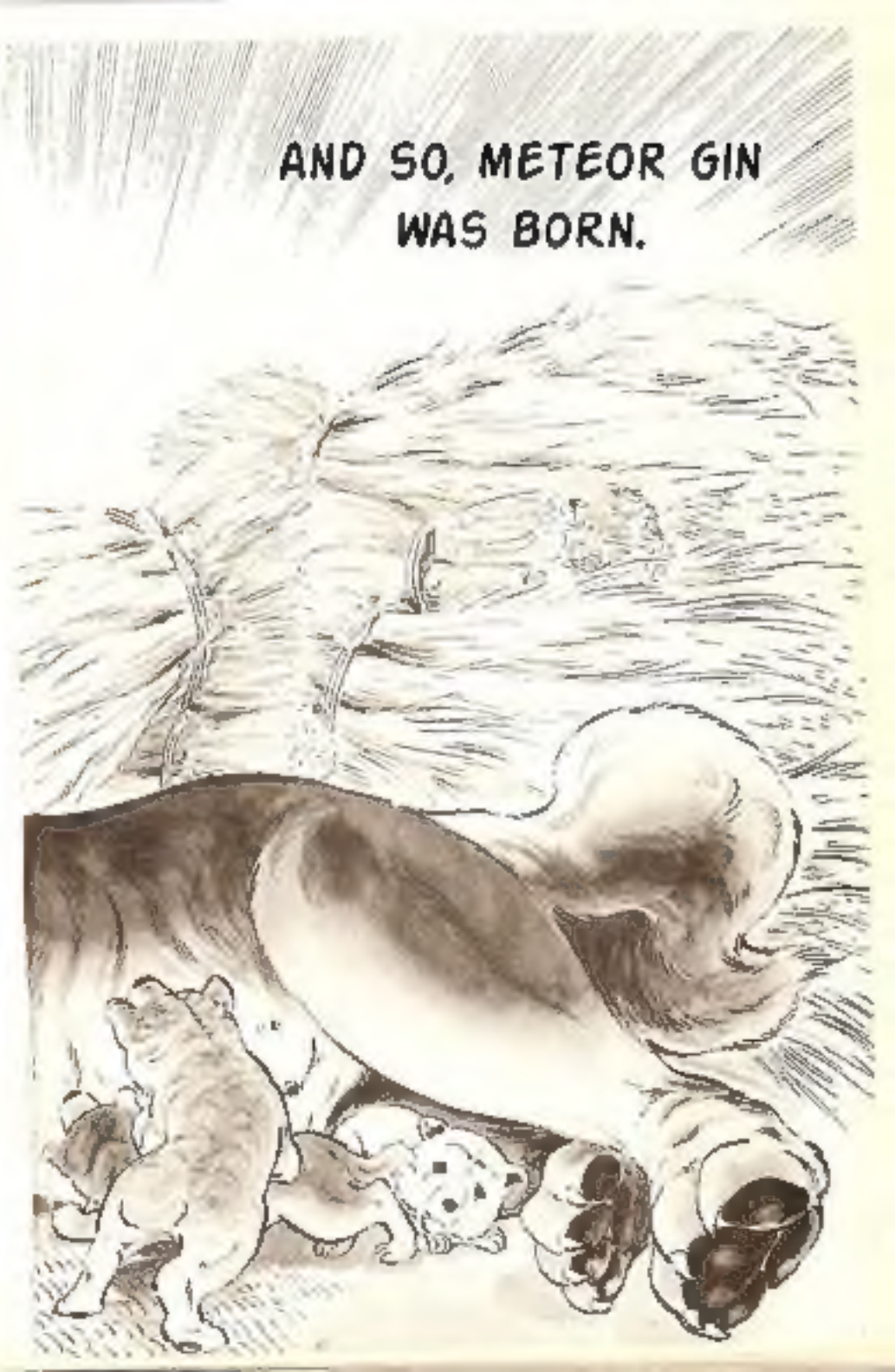
HE MUST BE DEAD. THE BULLET DESTROYED HIS NERVE SYSTEM.
OR, THAT'S WHAT THEY TOLD US.
YUP, THAT'S RIGHT.
DID THE BEAR DIE?
HE STAYED OUT ALL WINTER.
HE MISSED HYPERNATION.
I HAVE TO SEE IF SHE'S GIVEN BIRTH YET!
SORRY, I GOT TO GO. I'M WORRIED ABOUT FUJI.
WHY NOT?
DON'T TALK ABOUT IT TO THE TURISTS THOUGH.
I DON'T KNOW, BUT WE CAN'T..
GRANDPA WAS INJURED, AND RIKI WENT FOR THE VILLAGERS. HE SAVED HIS LIFE!
I THINK ONCE BEFORE, RIKI FOUGHT THAT BEAR AND WON.



* TORA-GE: TIGER-STRIPED, IS SAID TO BE MORE POWERFUL THAN "REGULAR" PUPPIES.




THIS TORA-GE PUPPY IN PARTICULAR LOOKS STRINKGLY ALIKE TO HIS FATHER RIKI, THE ELITE BEARHOUND.

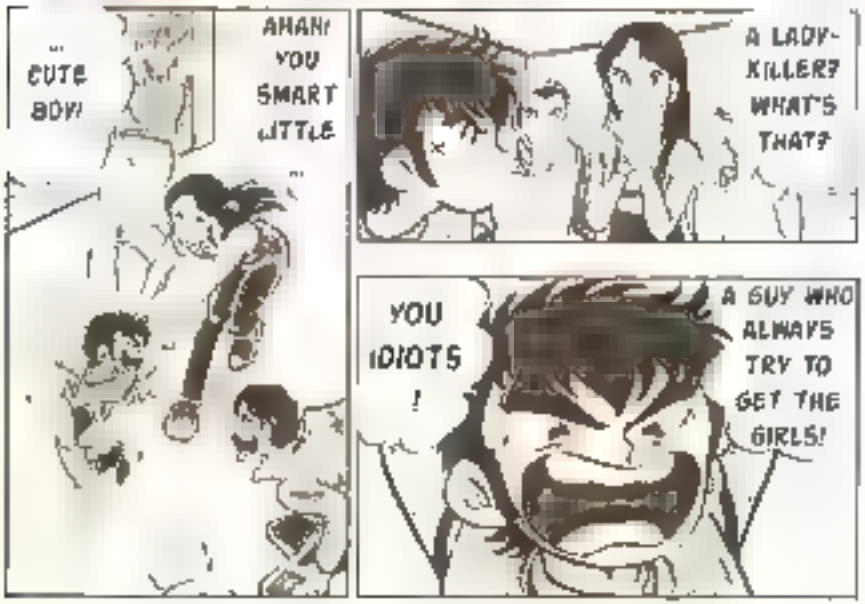

AND SO, METEOR GIN WAS BORN.

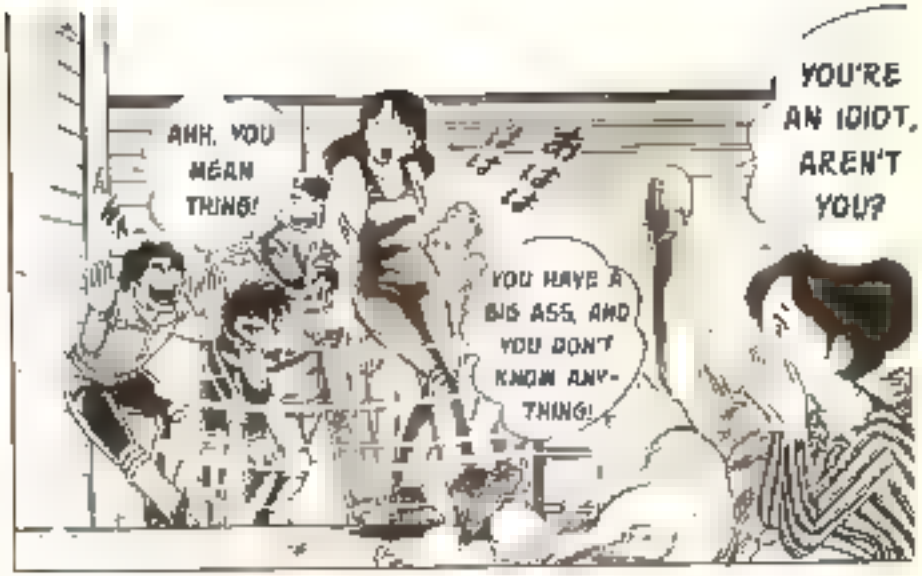
HEHE!
A REAL TORA-GE!
TORA -GE!
HE HE.
BOY, THAT'S AN AKITA DOG, RIGHT?
IS A TIGER-STRIPED PUPPY REALLY THAT SPECIAL?
THE OTHER ONE LOOKS SO MUCH CUTER!

YOU DID IT!
YOU DID IT, FUJI!
ONE OF THEM IS A TORA-GE!
LOOK, LOOK, MOM!
YOU'LL STEP ON THEM.
DAI-SUKE!
PUT HIM BACK.
FUJI'S GETTING WOR-RIED.
HEHE, SORRY!
WHINE

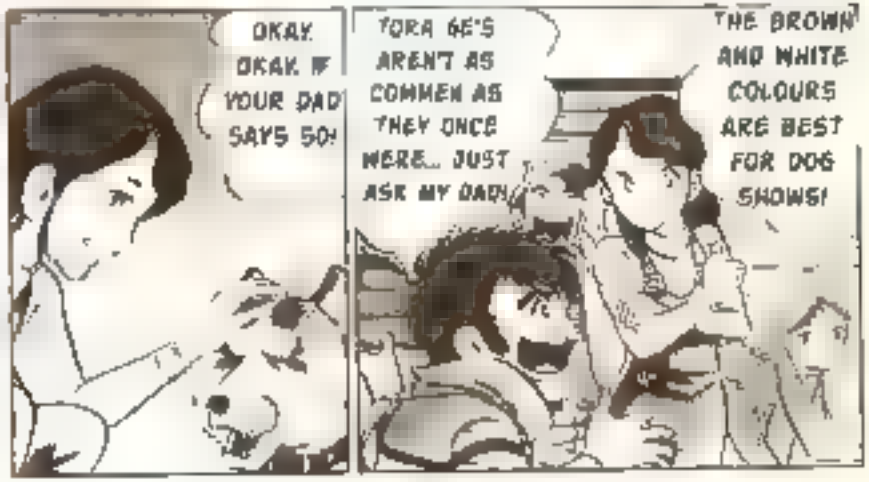
THE TAIL SHOULD BE THICK, SHORT AND ROLLED OVER THE BACK, AND THEIR BODY SHOULD BE CHUNKY.
REAL AKITA DOGS HAVE A BIG, BLOCKY HEAD AND THEIR EARS ARE SHORT AND ALERT

OR DO YOU JUST USE THAT TO TRY AND BE A LADY-KILLER?
YOU'RE A SMART-ASS STUDENT FROM TOKYO, RIGHT?
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT DOGS!
HAH! YOU SMART BOY!

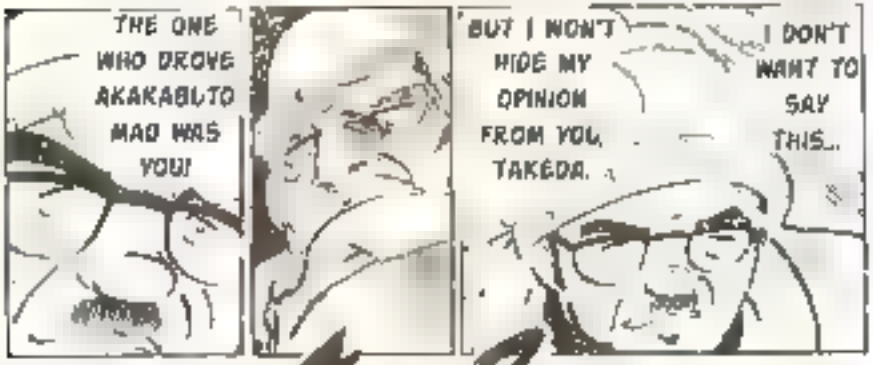

... CUTE BOY!
AHAH! YOU SMART LITTLE ...
A LADY-KILLER? WHAT'S THAT?
YOU IDIOTS!
A GUY WHO ALWAYS TRY TO GET THE GIRLS!


AHH, YOU MEAN THING!
YOU HAVE A BIG ASS, AND YOU DON'T KNOW ANY-THING!
YOU'RE AN IDIOT, AREN'T YOU?

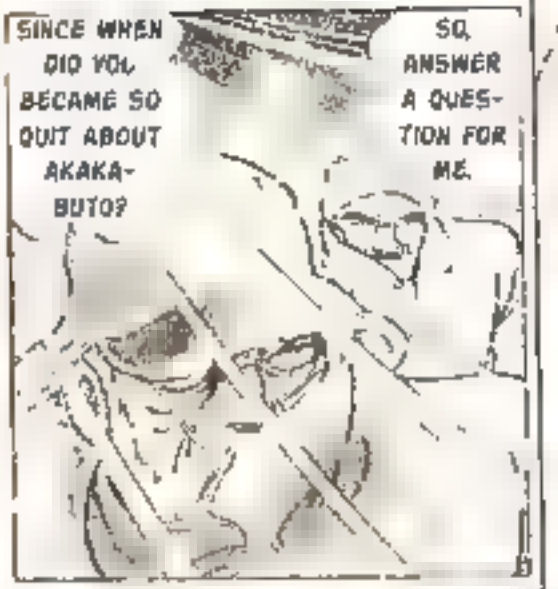
AN OLD LEGEND STATES THAT THE STRON-GEST AND MOST INTELLIGENT BEARHOUNDS WERE TIGER-STRIPED.
THE VILLAGER'S HUNTSMEN CON-SIDER THE EXISTANCE OF A TORA-GE AKITA DOG AS VERY RARE AND PRECIOUS.


OKAY. OKAY. IF YOUR DAD SAYS SO!
TORA GE'S AREN'T AS COMMEN AS THEY ONCE WERE... JUST ASK MY DAD!
THE BROWN AND WHITE COLOURS ARE BEST FOR DOG SHOWS!

AND IF A DISASTER WERE TO HAPPEN...

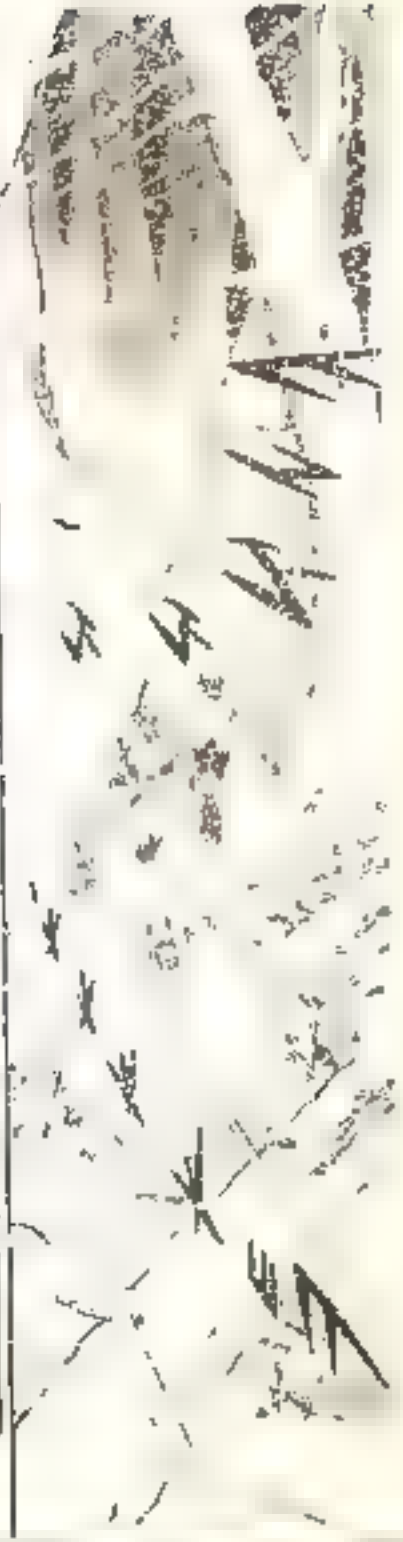

THE ONE WHO DROVE AKAKABUTO MAD WAS YOU!
BUT I WON'T HIDE MY OPINION FROM YOU, TAKEDA.
I DON'T WANT TO SAY THIS...

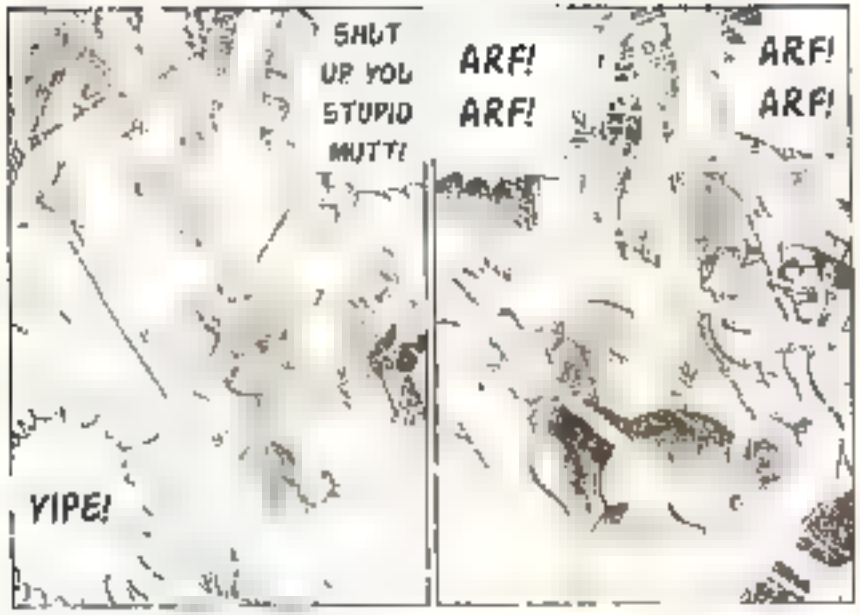
I CAN KILL HIM OFF WITHOUT YOUR HELP!
GET LOST, COWARD!

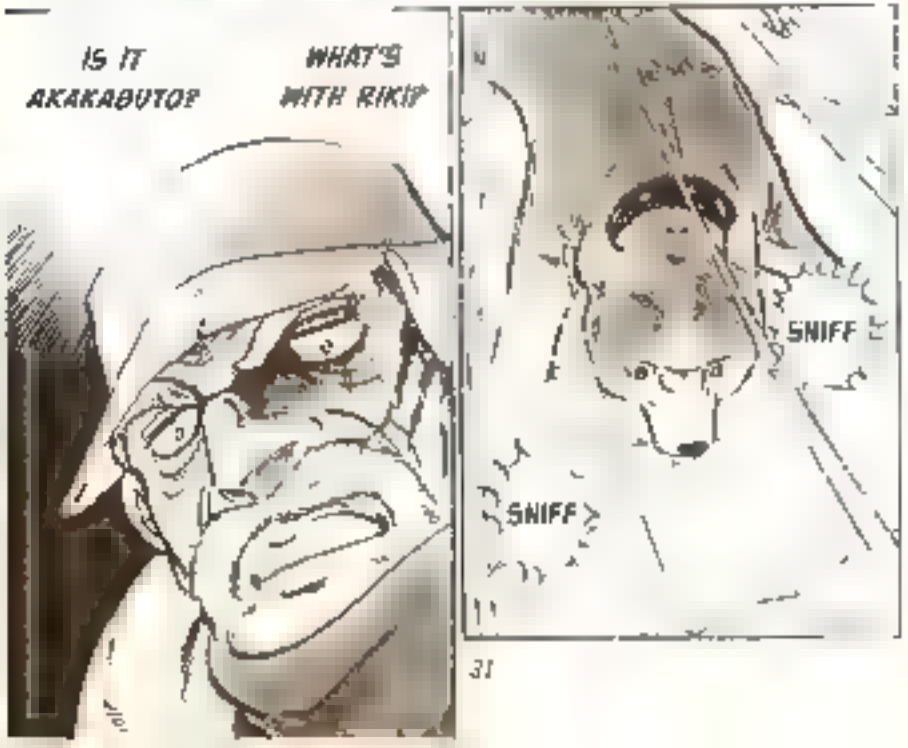

SINCE WHEN DID YOU BECAME SO QUIT ABOUT AKAKA-BUTO?
SO, ANSWER A QUES-TION FOR ME.

WE'RE ALL SCARED OF HIM!
SORRY, I CAN'T HELP IT!

...AND THE LOCALS ARE ALL LIVING IN FEAR..
WE'RE LOOSING TURISTS THANKS TO THAT DAMN BEAR..

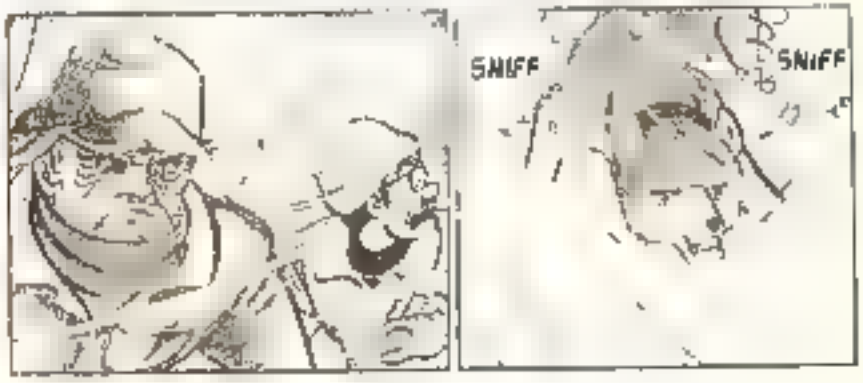



SHUT UP YOU STUPID MUTT!
ARF! ARF!
ARF! ARF!
YIPE!

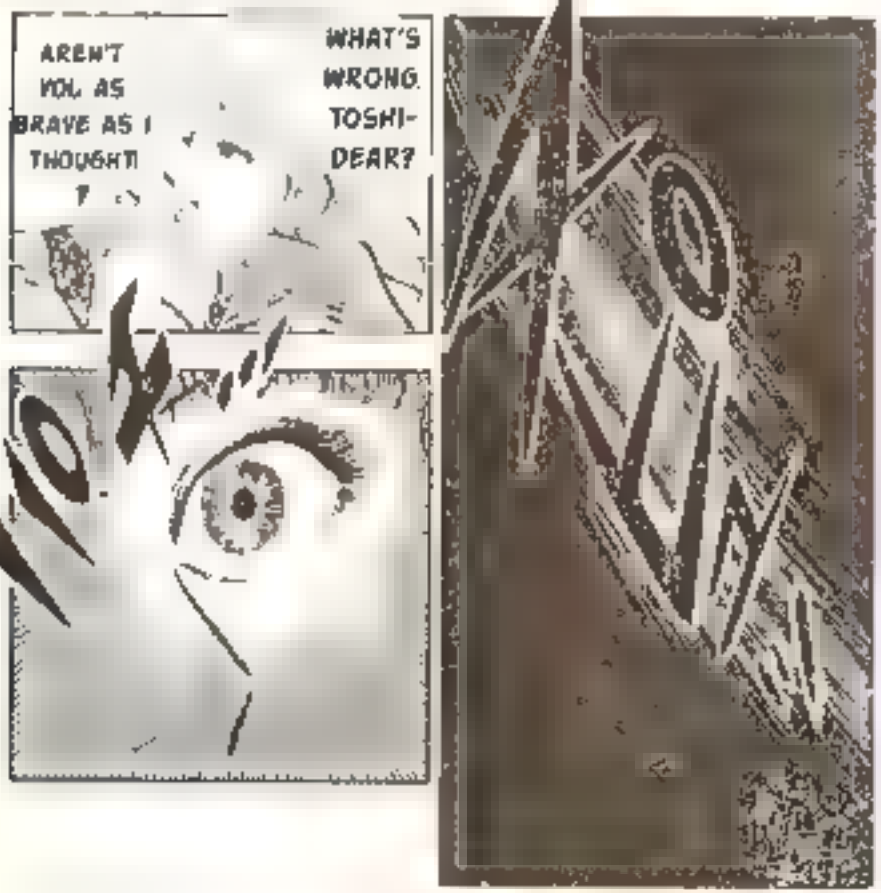

IS IT AKAKABUTO?
WHAT'S WITH RIKI?
SNIFF
SNIFF

SNEEZE
SNIFF
YOU SAID I WAS BEING TOO QUIET.
AH... DON'T BE SO MAD TAKEDA!

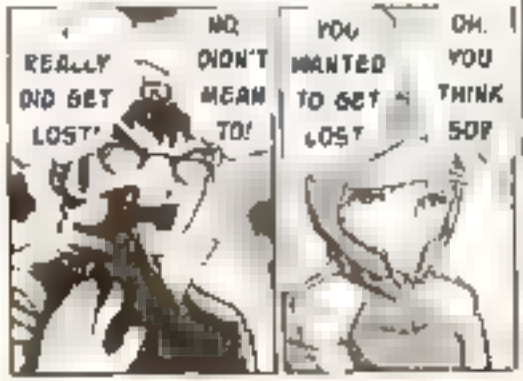
HE MUST HAVE CAUGHT A SCENT
UH? WHAT'S WRONG, RIKI?


SNIFF
SNIFF

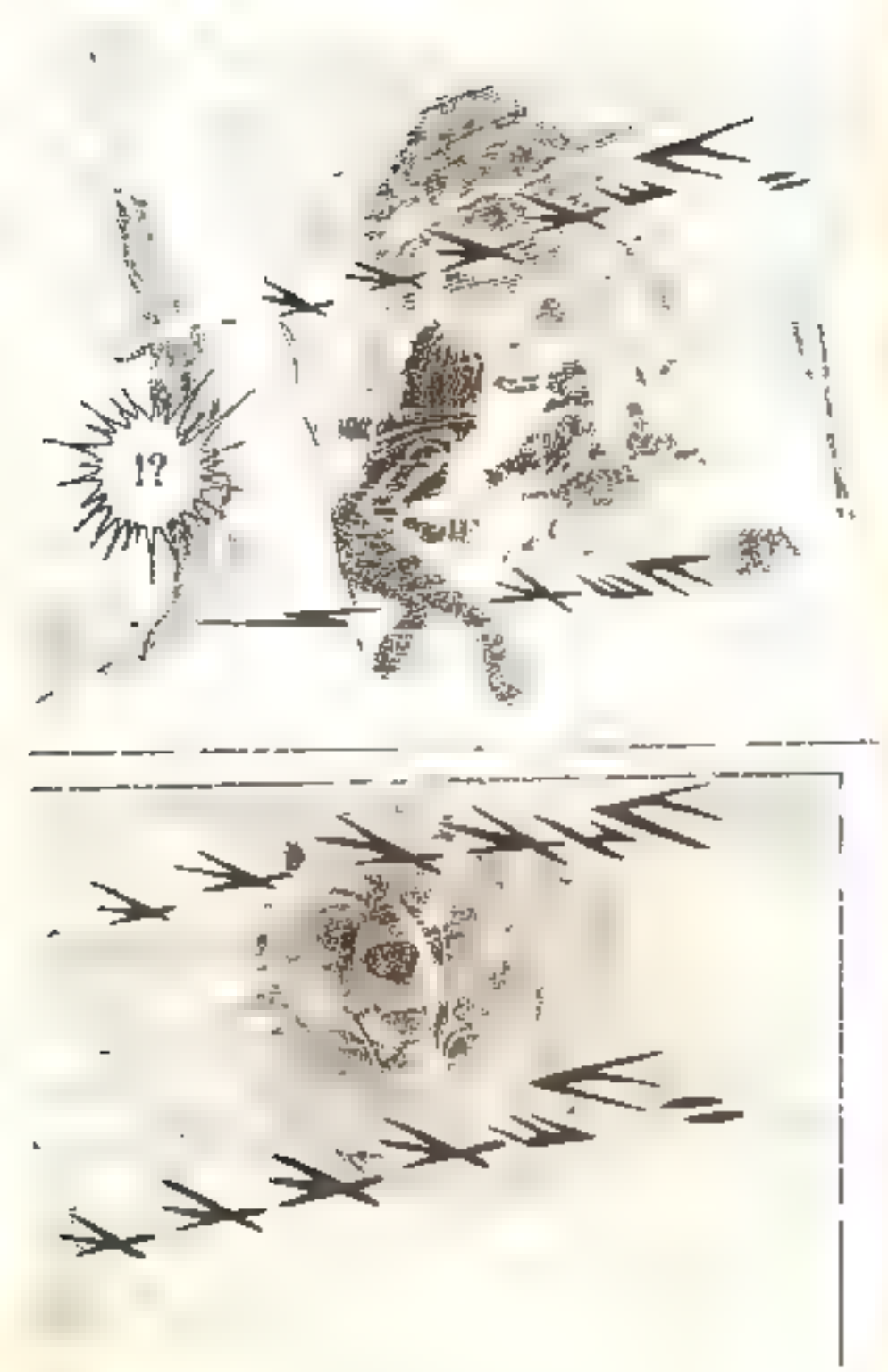
JUST KISS ME.
KAZUE


AREN'T YOU AS BRAVE AS I THOUGHT!
WHAT'S WRONG, TOSHI-DEAR?
YOW!!

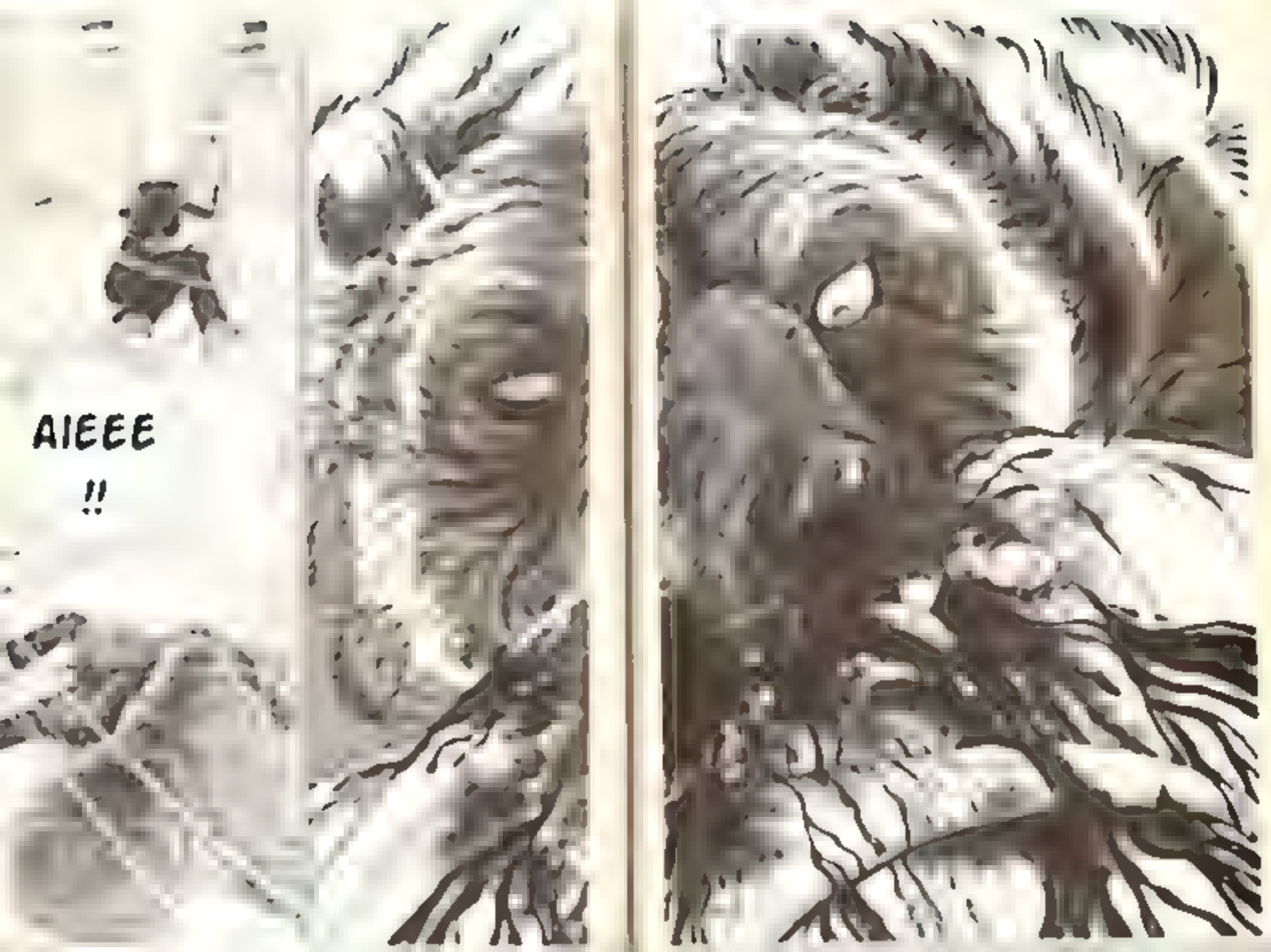
HMM. STRANGE. I THINK WE'RE LOST


REALLY DID GET LOST!
NO, DIDN'T MEAN TO!
YOU WANTED TO GET LOST
OH. YOU THINK SO?

IT'S NOT EXACTLY A BAD THING, YOU KNOW
IT'S OKAY

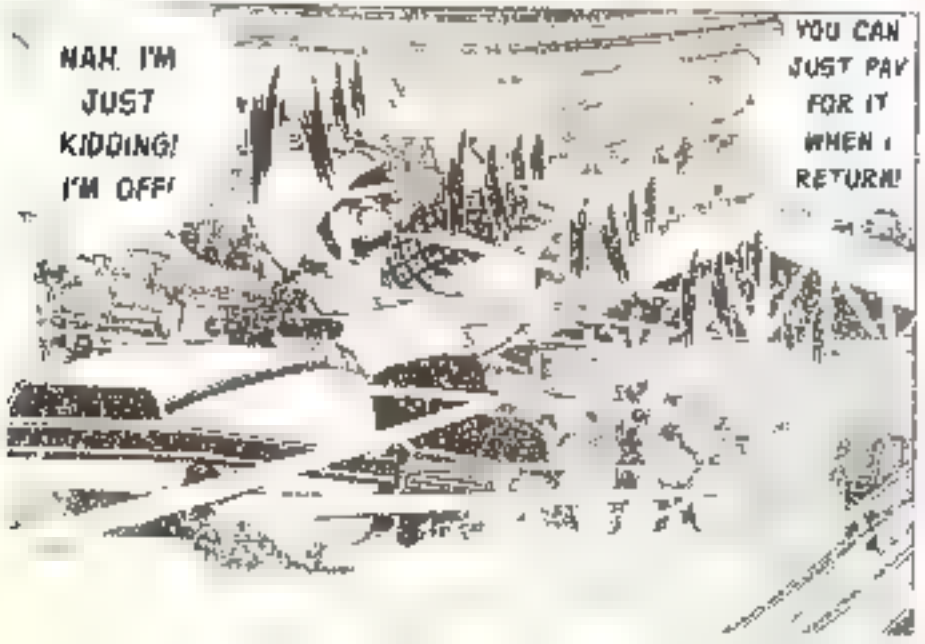

!?
OH MY GOD!
AIEE EE!!

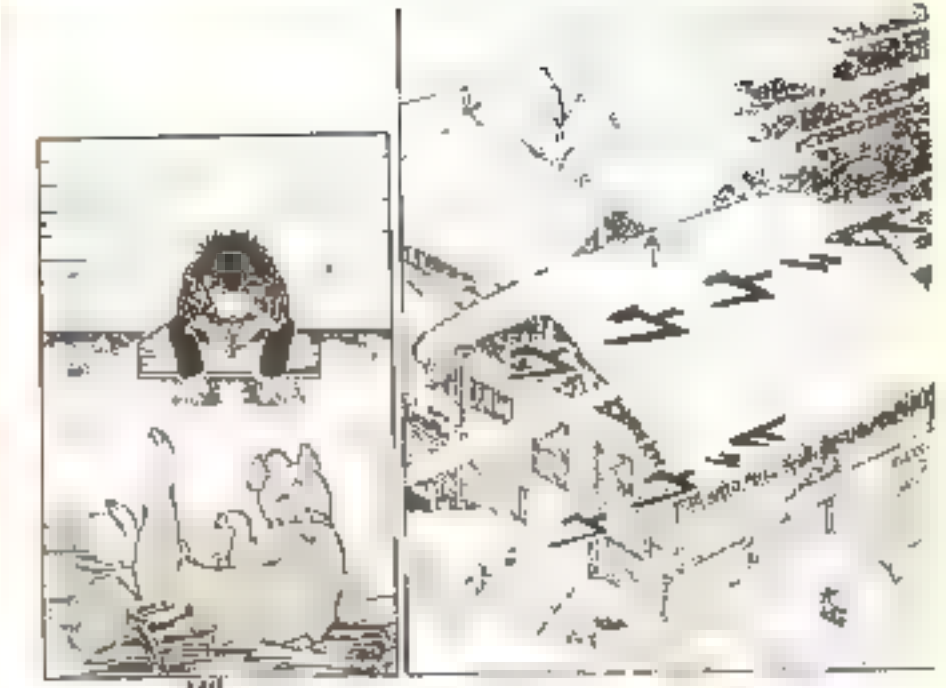
PAPA
PAIEE
FIND
IT,
RIKI!


AIEEE
!!

IT'S NOT GOOD. YOU CAN'T JUST SIT IN HERE AND BE IDLE.
THOSE TWO STUDENTS WHO'RE STAYING HERE HAVEN'T RETURNED

AND I HAVE TO PAY FOR THE PETROL FOR THIS WITH MY OWN MONEY.
JEZZ.. STUDENTS ARE SO USELESS
PLEASE
SORRY, BOY.


NAH. I'M JUST KIDDING! I'M OFF!
YOU CAN JUST PAY FOR IT WHEN I RETURN!

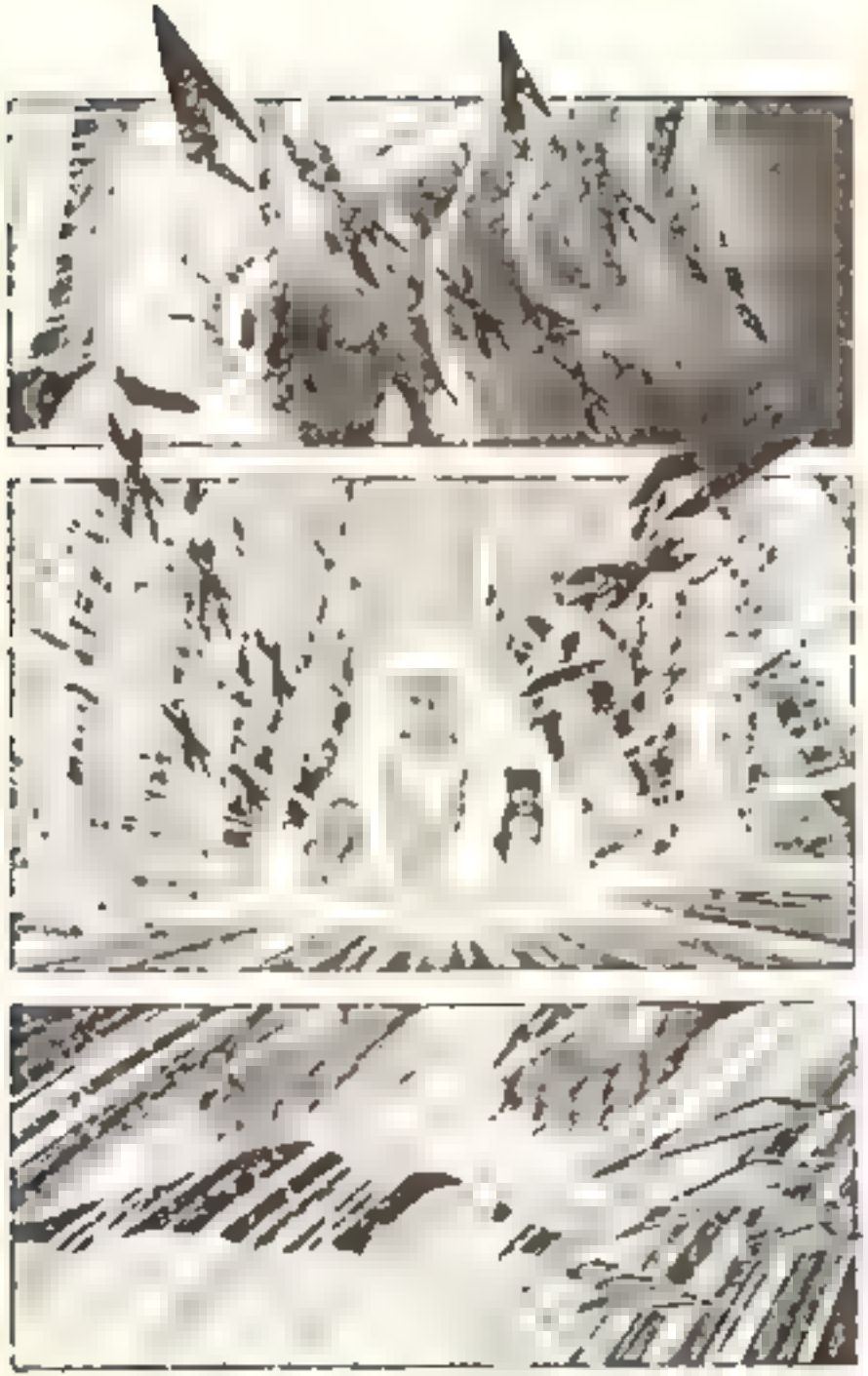


IS YOUR SNOW-MOBILE FIXED YET?
DAI-SUKE!

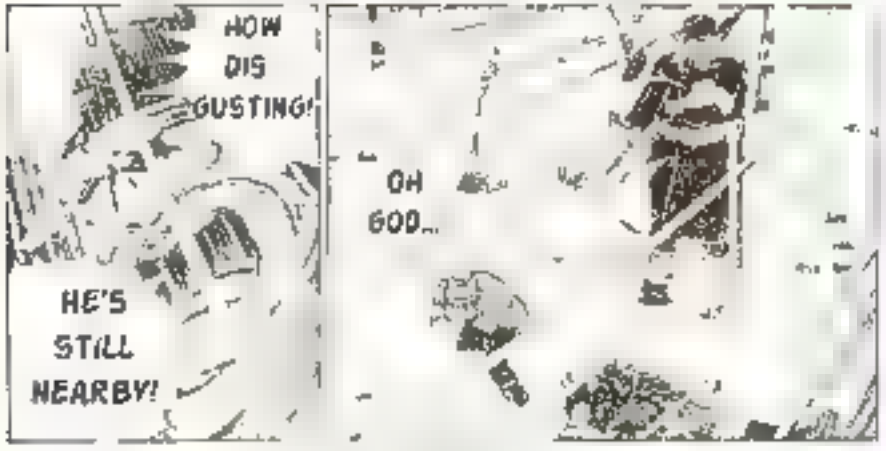
"GIN" SILVER

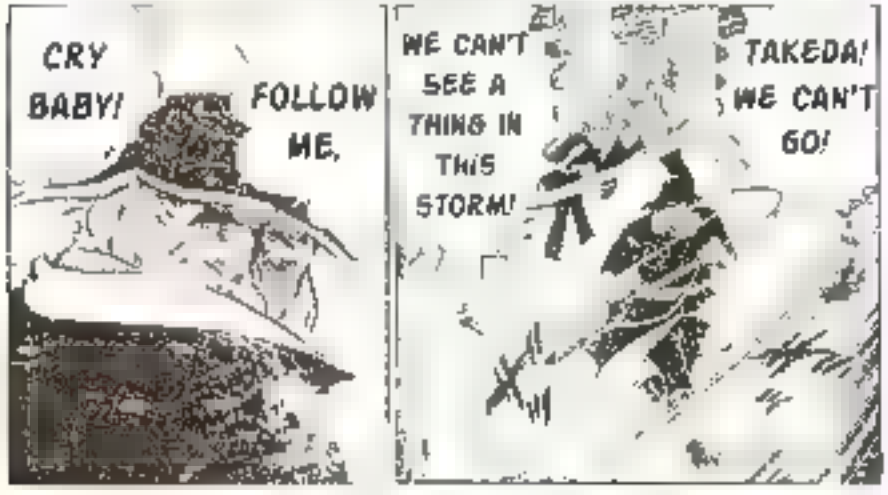
YOU'RE ALL SILVERY COLOURED.
JUST LOOKING AT YOU MAKES ME HAPPY.

IT'LL BE GIN!"
AND THAT'S WHAT YOUR NAME WILL BE!



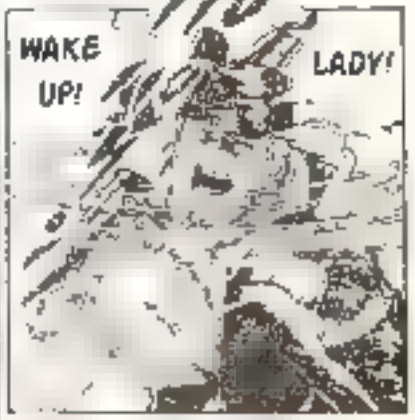
TAKEDA, OVER HERE!
ARGH !


HOW DIS GUSTING!
HE'S STILL NEARBY!
OH GOD...


CRY BABY!
FOLLOW ME.
WE CAN'T SEE A THING IN THIS STORM!
TAKEDA! WE CAN'T GO!

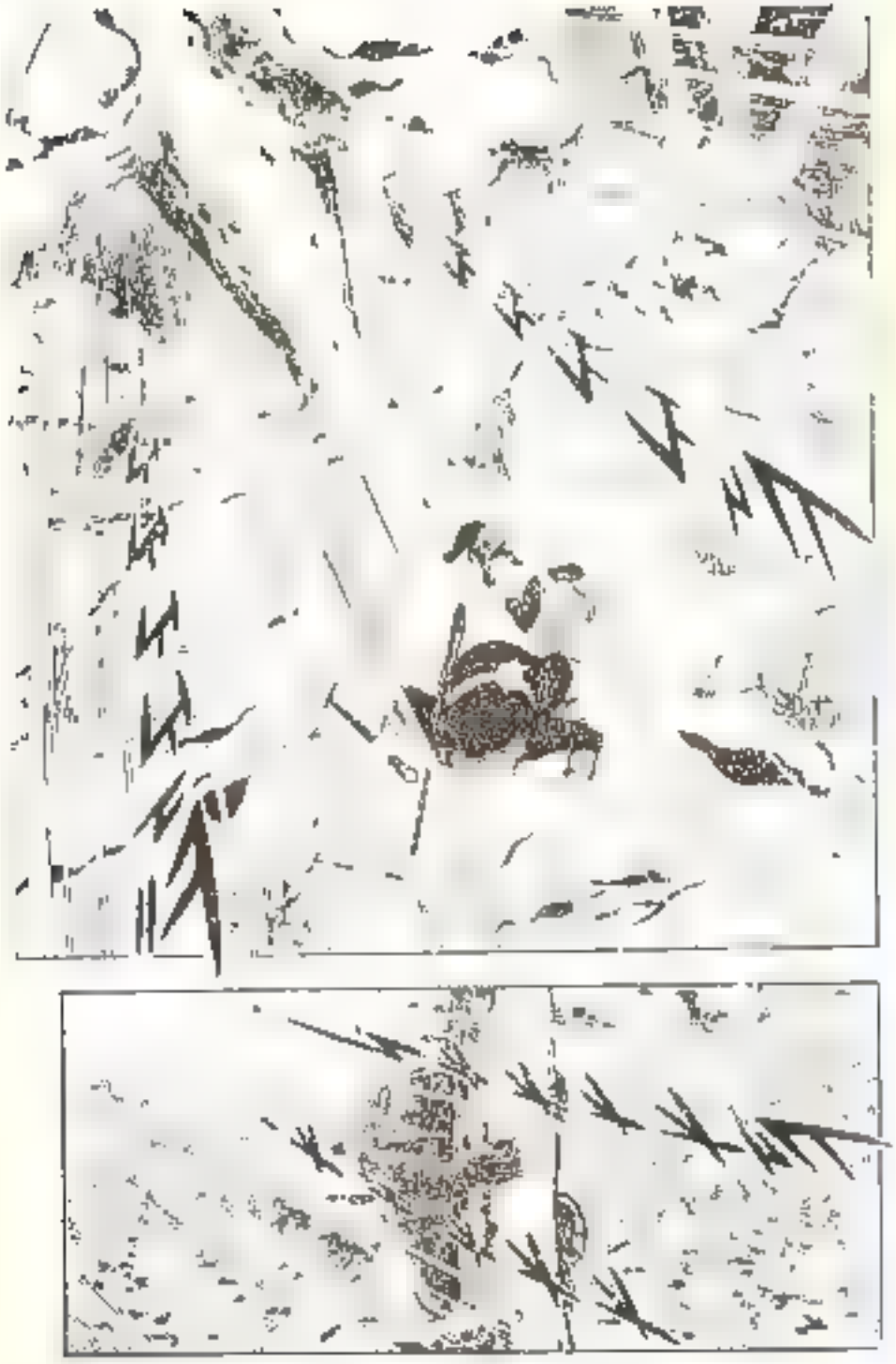
SOMEONE'S UNCONTIOUS OVER HERE!
A WOMAN! ONE OF THE STUDENTS!

ARGH !!
AIEE E!
CALM DOWN! WHAT THE HELL HAP-PENED?!


WAKE UP!
LADY!

IT'S BEEN FIVE YEARS. I KNOW YOU'VE GROWN EVEN WISER
I SEE. SO HE ESCAPED UP THERE!
HE KNEW IT WOULD HIDE HIS SCENT FROM US.
HE JUMPED OVER THAT BIG ROCK
FIND HIM, RIKI!
THIS IS BAD! I DIDN'T IMAGINE HE WOULD BE THIS CLEVER!

EVEN FOR US TO LEAVE IS DANGER-OUS!
BUT I CAN'T JUST LEAVE YOU, TAKEDA!
GET THAT WOMAN OFF THE MOUN TAIN
JUST GO BACK TO THE VILLAGE.
ARF, ARF!
SPEAK!
RIKI! WHERE ARE YOU?



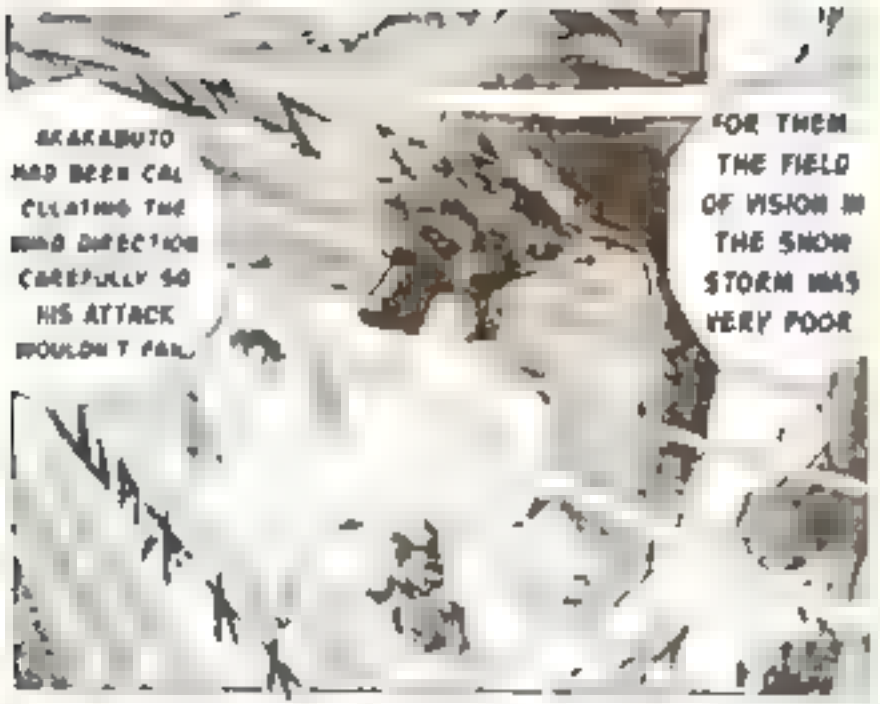
HIS TWO FOLLOWERS WAITED UNTIL RIKI HAD REACHED THE PEAK, BEFORE CLIMBING IT THEMSELVES.

FIRST RIKI, THE LEADER, CLIMBED TO THE TOP

THE THREE DOGS MOVED AS ONE BODY WHILE ON THE HUNT.

THEY LED IN CIRCLE AS THOUGH HE HAD SIMPLY VANISHED FROM THE MOUNTAIN.

BUT AKAKA-BOTO HAD DELIBERATELY LEFT PAW-PRINTS IN THE SNOW.

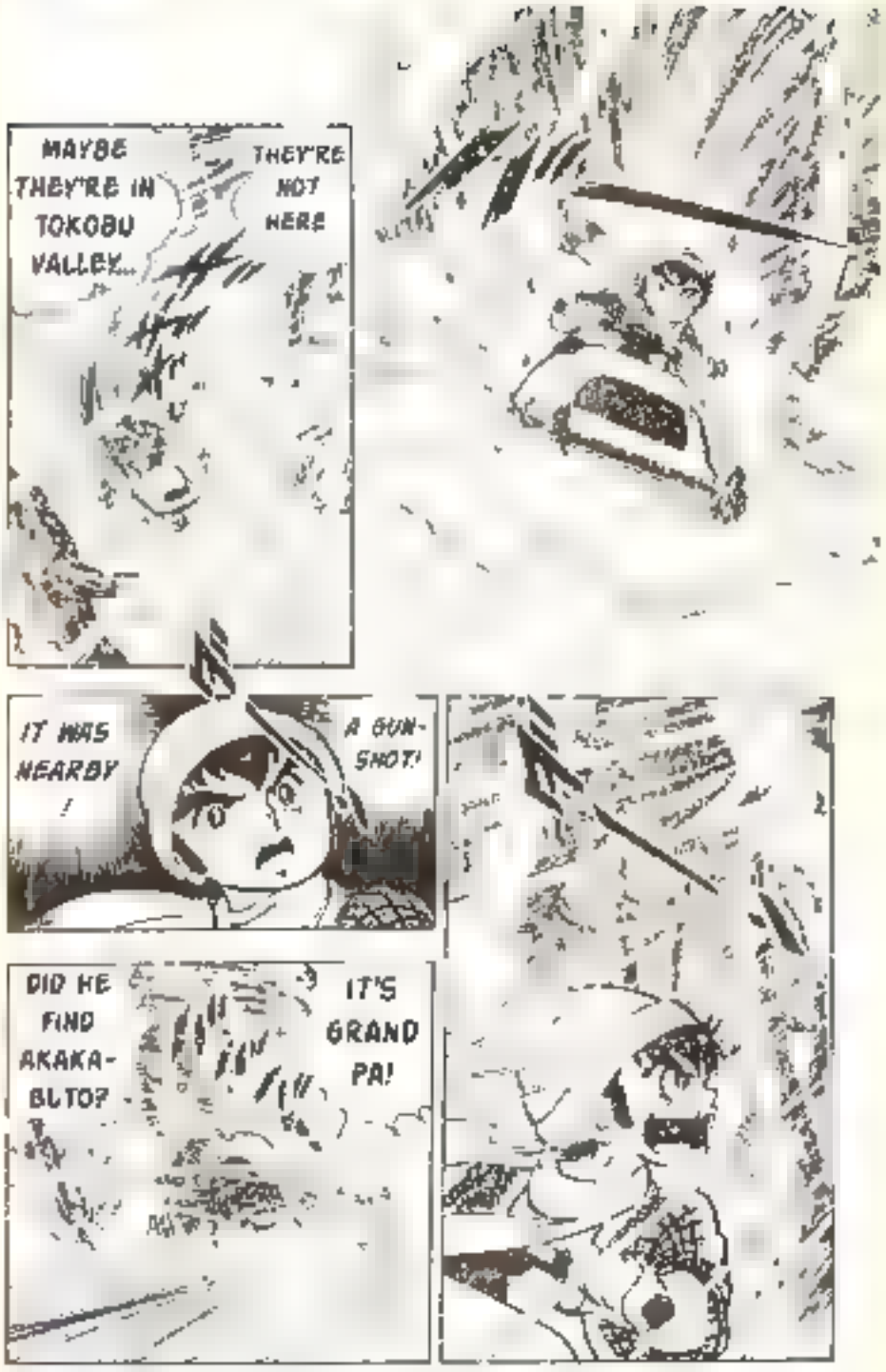

AKAKABUTO HAD BEEN CALCULATING THE WIND DIRECTION CAREFULLY SO HIS ATTACK WOULDN'T FAIL.
FOR THEM THE FIELD OF VISION IN THE SNOW STORM WAS VERY POOR

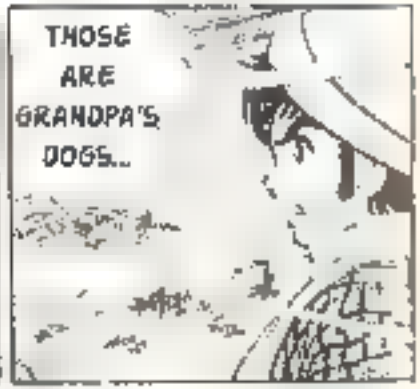
FROM THE TREETOP AKAKABUTO COULD CLEARLY SEE EVERYONE BELOW
HE CAUGHT THE SIGHT OF THE APPROACHING MAN WHO HAD SHOT HIS EYE FEELING PURE HATRED.

HE WOULD JUMP FROM THE TREE AND AMBUSH THEM
AKAKABUTO WAS AT THE TOP OF THE TREE ABOVE WHILE HIS SCENT BELOW WAS CONFUSING THE DOGS.

GRRR.
GUAAAH.

AIYAA!
!?


MAYBE THEY'RE IN TOKOBU VALLEY...
THEY'RE NOT HERE
IT WAS NEARBY !
A GUN-SHOT!
DID HE FIND AKAKA-BLTO?
IT'S GRAND PA!



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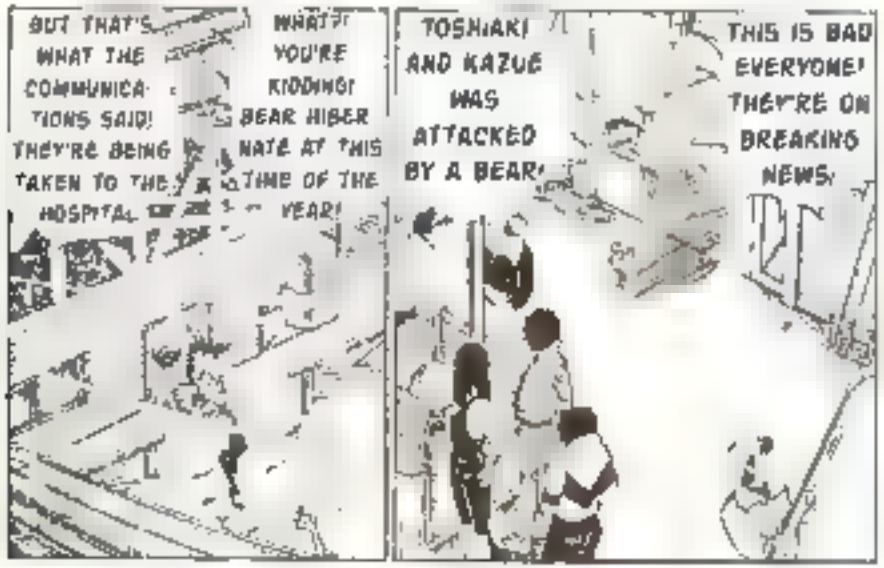
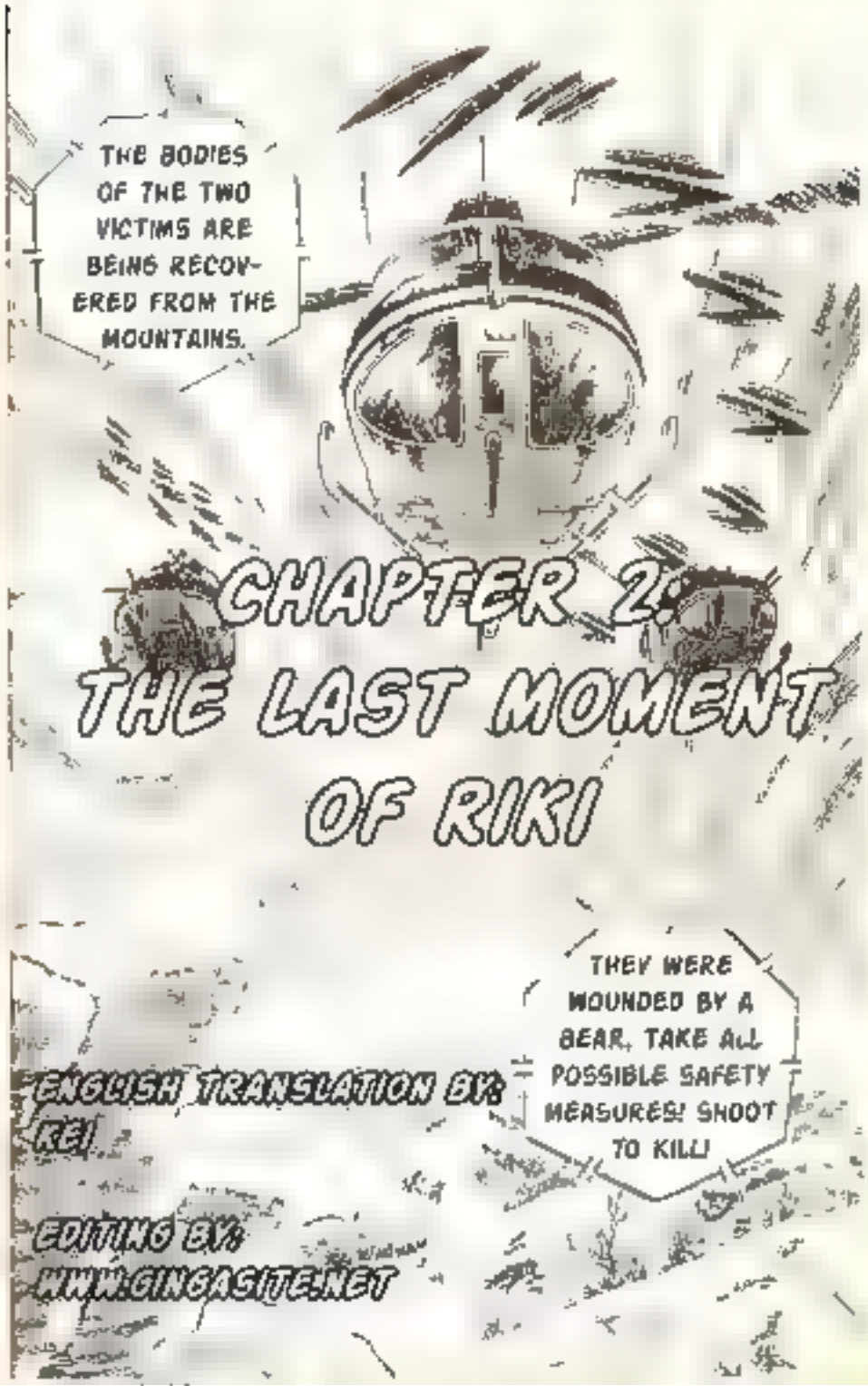
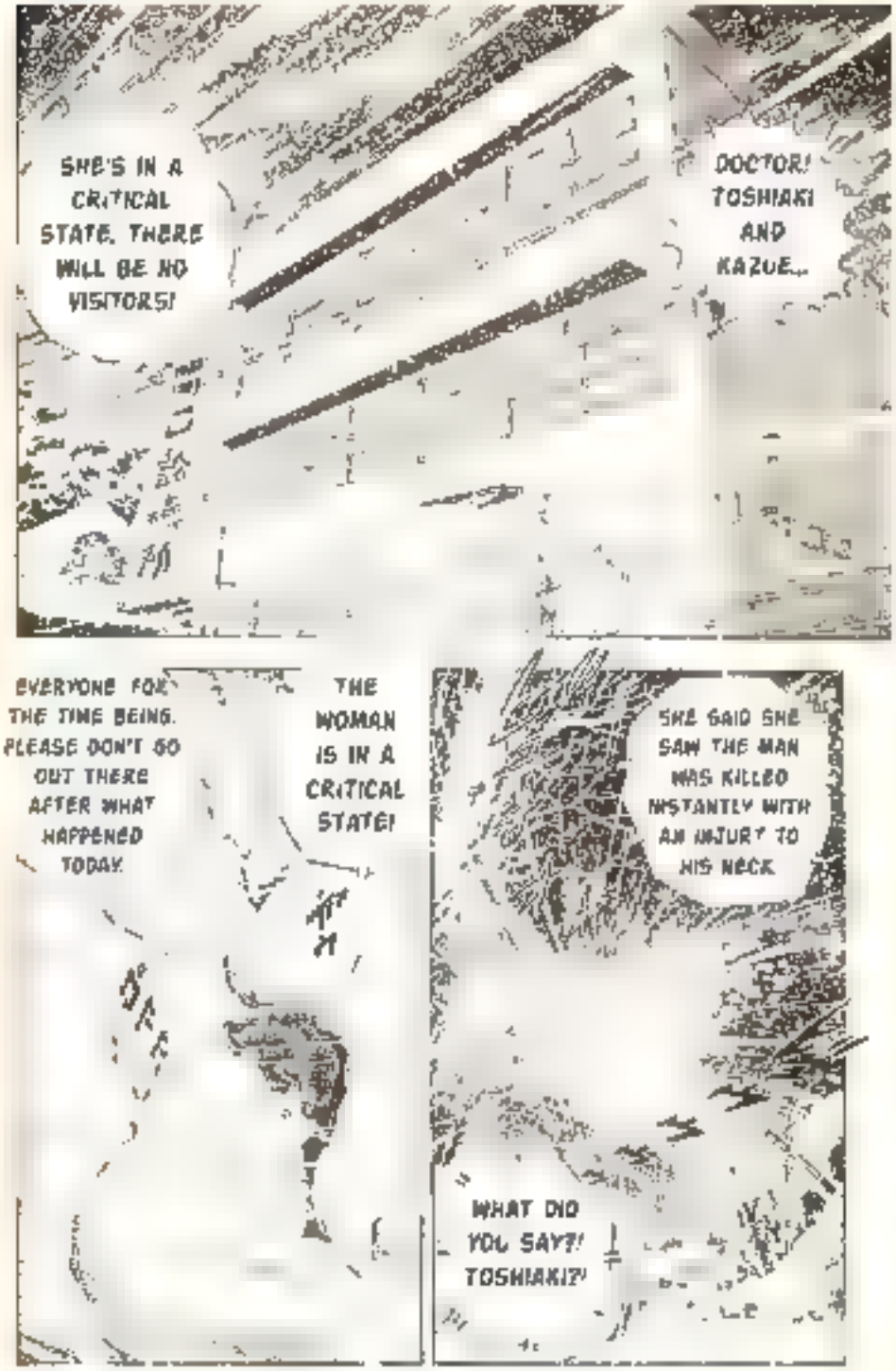
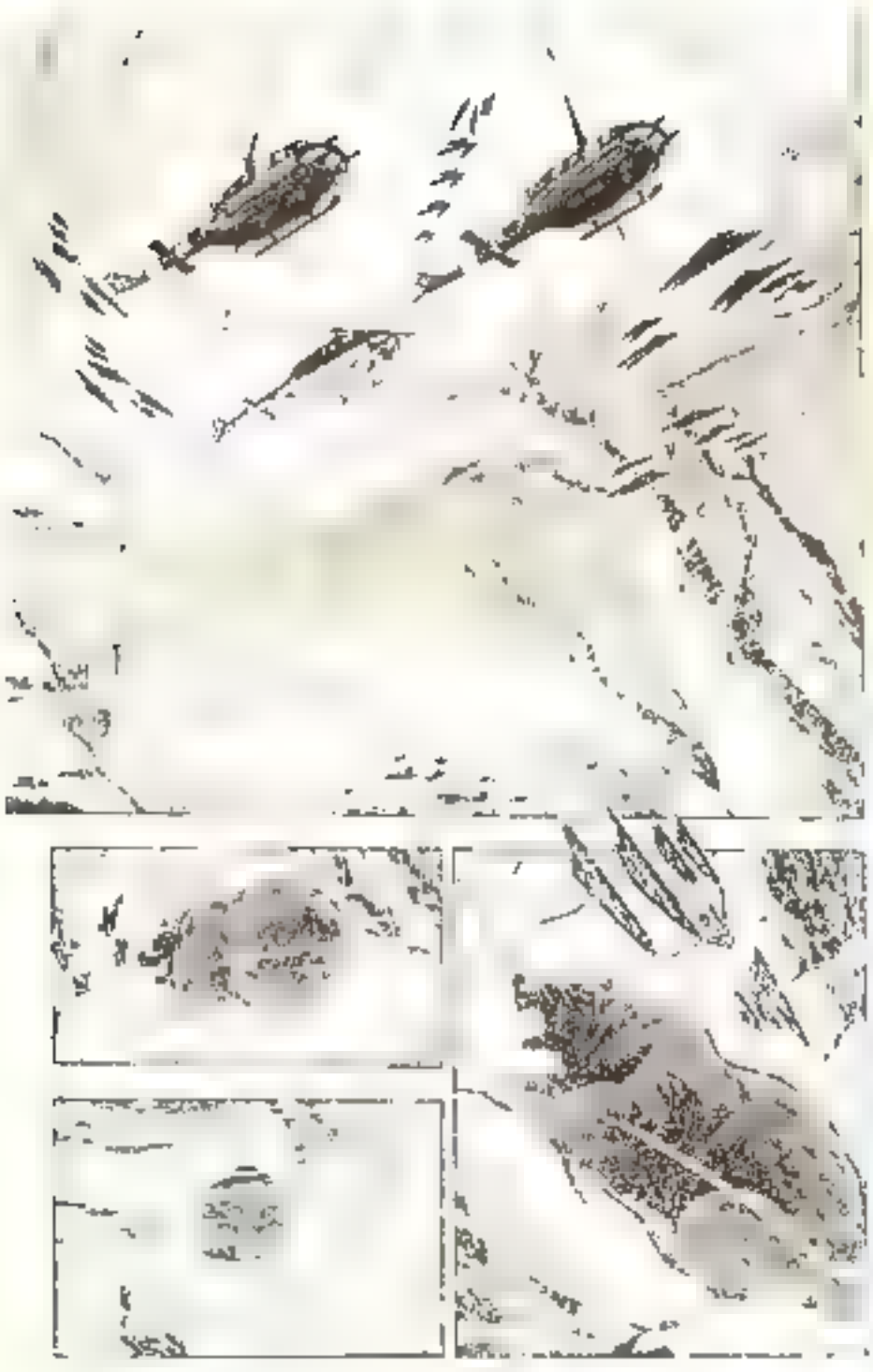
WHAT HAPPENED? HAS SOMEONE GONE MISSING?!
LOOK HELICOPTERS!

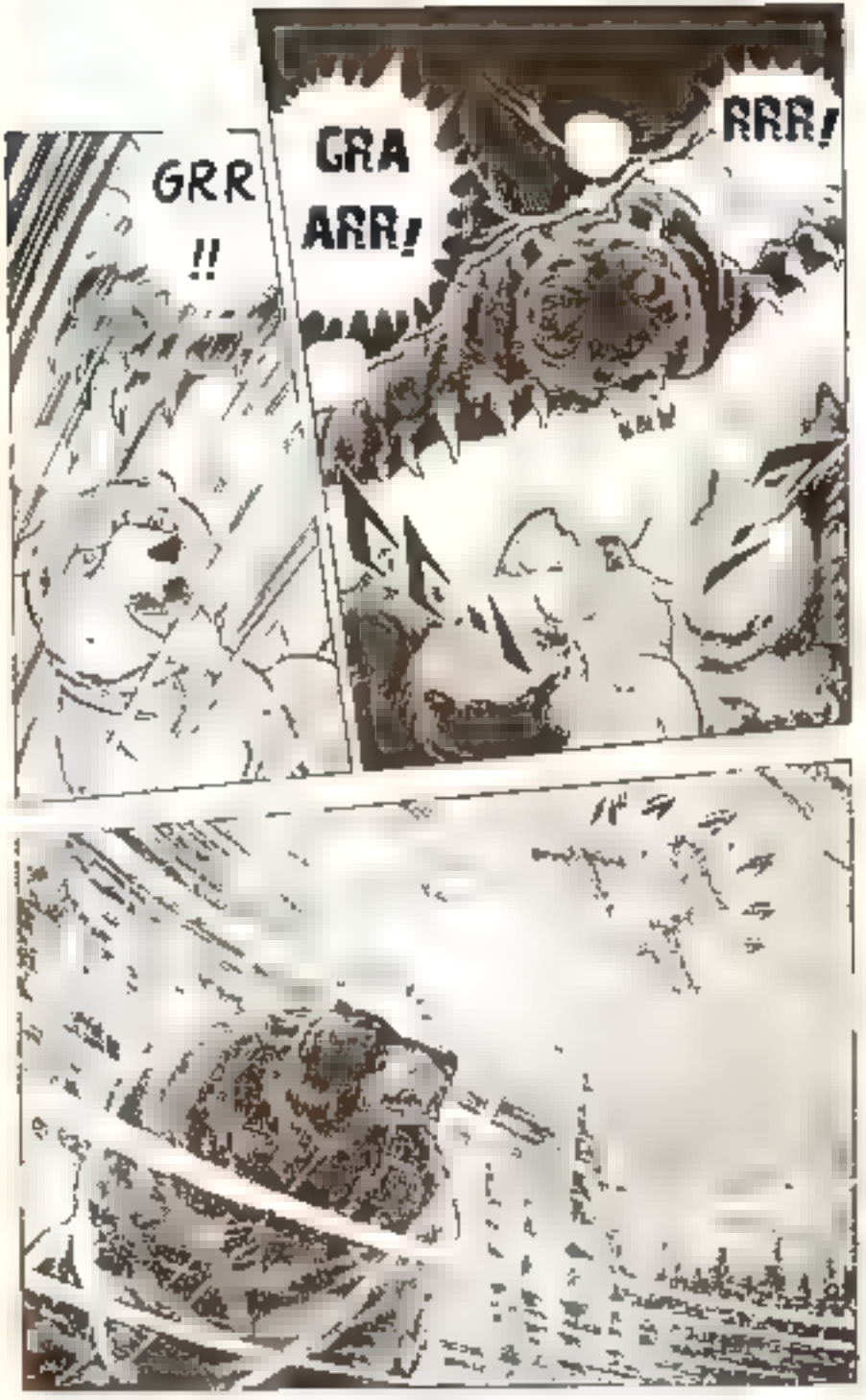

BUT THAT'S WHAT THE COMMUNICATIONS SAID! THEY'RE BEING TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL
WHAT?! YOU'RE KIDDING! BEAR HIBERNATE AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR!
TOSHIAKI AND KAZUE WAS ATTACKED BY A BEAR!
THIS IS BAD EVERYONE! THEY'RE ON BREAKING NEWS!

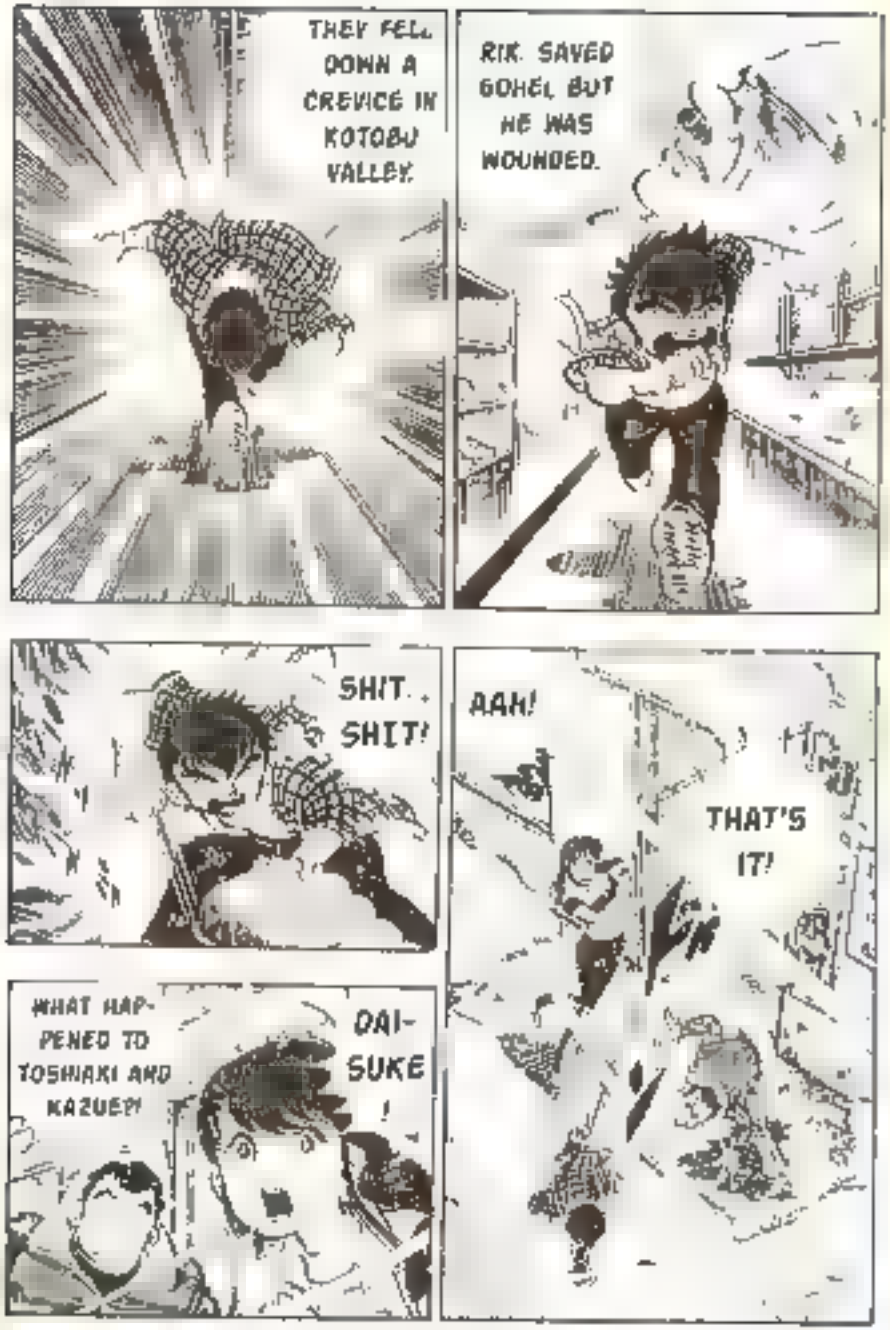

THE BODIES OF THE TWO VICTIMS ARE BEING RECOVERED FROM THE MOUNTAINS.
CHAPTER 2: THE LAST MOMENT OF RIKI
ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY: REI
EDITING BY: WWW.GINGASITE.NET
THEY WERE WOUNDED BY A BEAR. TAKE ALL POSSIBLE SAFETY MEASURES! SHOOT TO KILL!

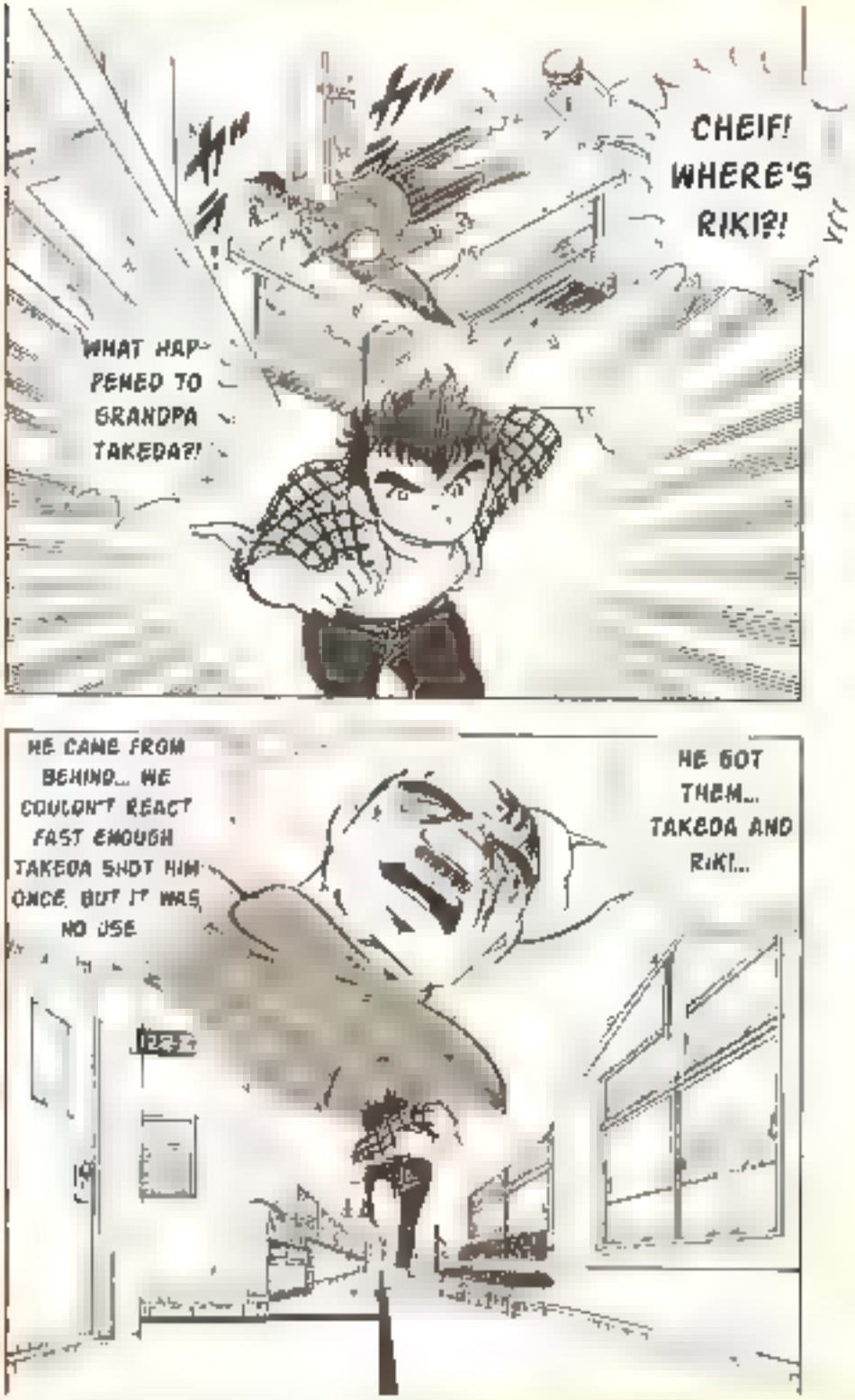
GRRR
GRRR
GRRR RR!!
RRR !
GNAAH !


SHE'S IN A CRITICAL STATE. THERE WILL BE NO VISITORS!
DOCTOR! TOSHIAKI AND KAZUE...
EVERYONE FOR THE TIME BEING. PLEASE DON'T GO OUT THERE AFTER WHAT HAPPENED TODAY.
THE WOMAN IS IN A CRITICAL STATE!
SHE SAID SHE SAW THE MAN WAS KILLED INSTANTLY WITH AN INJURY TO HIS NECK.
WHAT DID YOU SAY?! TOSHIAKI?!

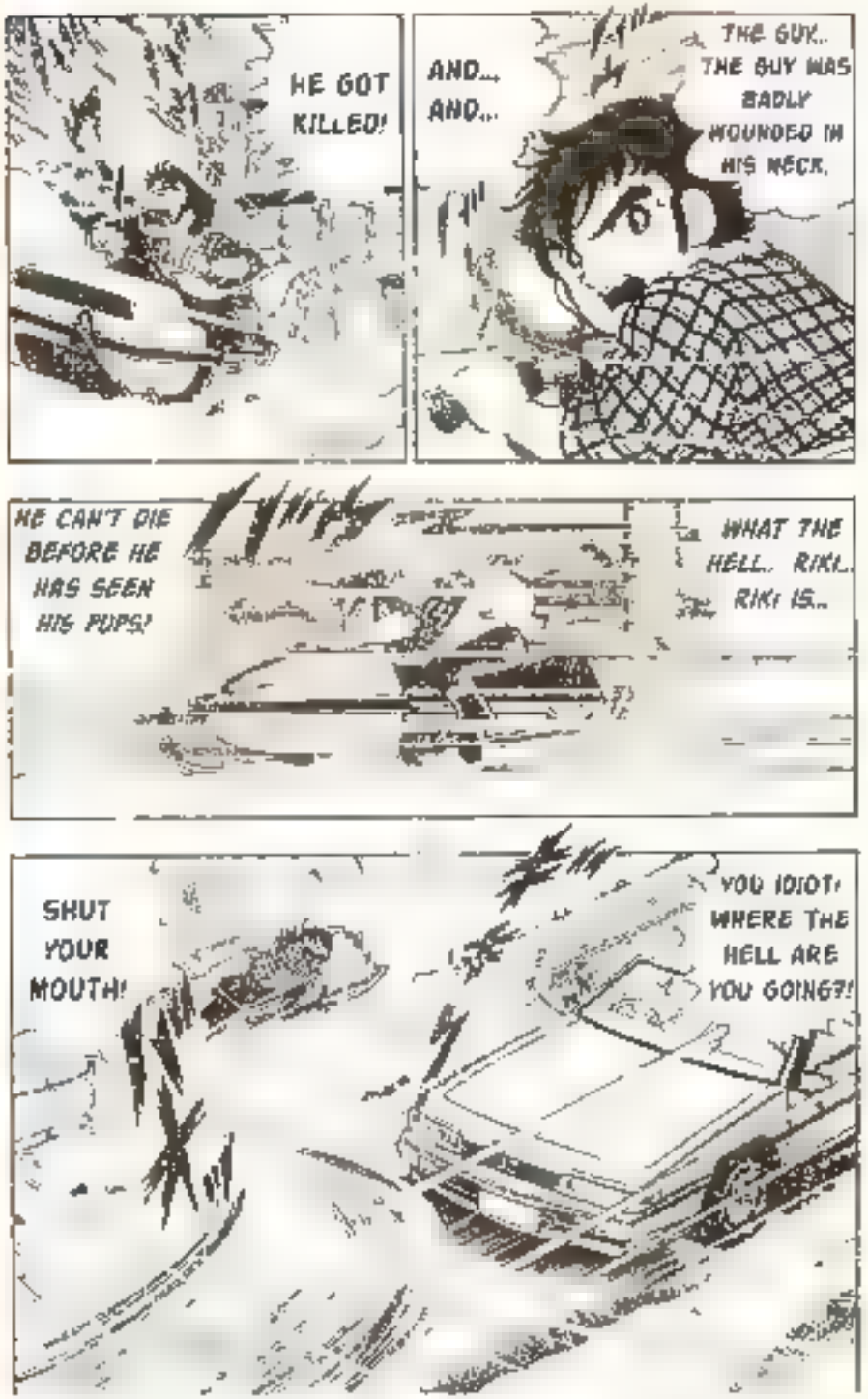



GRR
!!
GRA
ARR!
RRR!

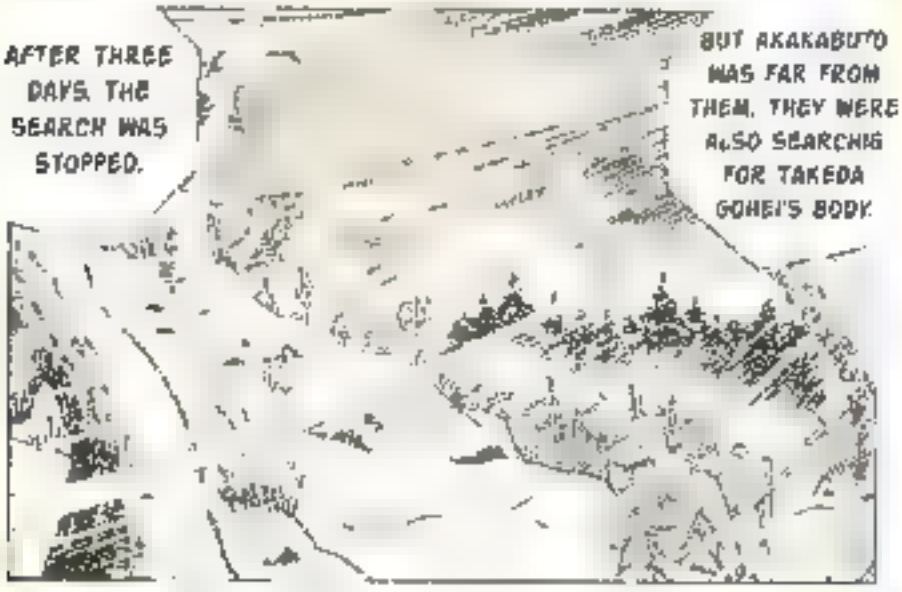

THEY FELL DOWN A CREVICE IN KOTOBU VALLEY.
RIK. SAVED GOHEL BUT HE WAS WOUNDED.
SHIT.. SHIT!
AAH!
THAT'S IT!
WHAT HAP- PENED TO TOSHIAKI AND KAZUE?!
DAI- SUKE !


CHEIF! WHERE'S RIKI?!
WHAT HAP- PENED TO GRANDPA TAKEDA?!
HE CAME FROM BEHIND... WE COULDN'T REACT FAST ENOUGH TAKEDA SHOT HIM ONCE, BUT IT WAS NO USE
HE GOT THEM... TAKEDA AND RIKI...

IS THERE STILL NO NEWS ABOUT WHERE HE IS?
MOTHER ... GRANDPA
YOUR DAD AND THE VILLAGE MEN ARE STILL SEARCHING FOR HIM.


HE GOT KILLED!
AND... AND...
THE GUY.. THE GUY WAS BADLY WOUNDED IN HIS NECK.
HE CAN'T DIE BEFORE HE HAS SEEN HIS PUPS!
WHAT THE HELL.. RIKI.. RIKI IS..
SHUT YOUR MOUTH!
YOU IDIOT! WHERE THE HELL ARE YOU GOING?!

THEY CONTINUED TO DO SO FOR TWO DAYS.
THE SEARCH PARTY, BEAR HUNTERS, PREFECTURAL POLICE AND SELF-DEFENCE FORCE SEARCHED TOGETHER


AFTER THREE DAYS, THE SEARCH WAS STOPPED.
BUT AKAKABUTO WAS FAR FROM THEM. THEY WERE ALSO SEARCHING FOR TAKEDA GOHEI'S BODY.

R-KI... RIKI WAS KILLED...
FUJI.
WHINE
THAT'S JUST WHAT THEY SAID.
BUT, GIN!
IT'S WHAT THEY'VE TOLD ME. BUT I THINK RIKI IS JUST WOUNDED!
THEY SAID HE WAS KILLED BY AKAKABUTO...

DO YOU REALLY THINK GIN'S FATHER WAS KILLED BY AKAKA BUTO?!
GIN...
YOUR FATHER IS AN AMAZING DOG. YOU MUST SEE HIM BEFORE HE DIES.
GIN, YOU MUST BELIEVE ME!
THEY ARE WRONG. I WON'T BELIEVE IT!

AT LEAST THE SKIING AREA WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL AKAKABUTO IS SHOT DEAD...
WHAT AN AWFUL SITUATION.
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT RIKI! HE ISN'T JUST ANY OLD DOG!
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
YEAH. THE TOWN HALL PUT UP A NOTIFICATION.
SO THEY DECIDED TO CLOSE IT? AFTER ALL?
THE STORM HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR WEEKS. I GUESS IT'S HOPELESS...
AND WHAT ABOUT GRANDPA ?

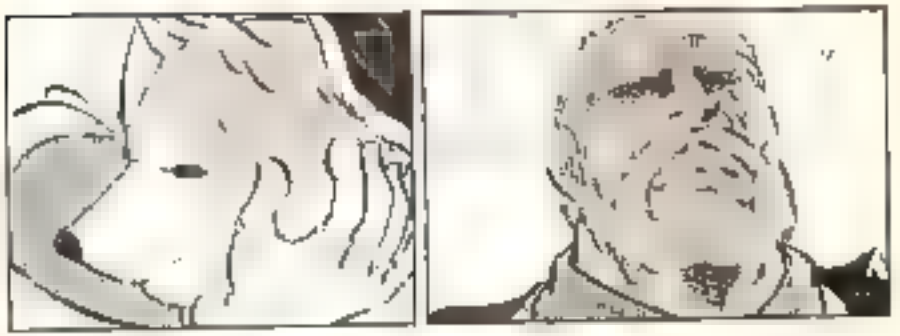
BUT TODAY MARKED ONE FULL WEEK SINCE THE INCIDENT
A MUTUAL EFFORT TO OVERCOME THE COLD AND ESCAPE DEATH.
GOHEI AND RIKI LAY ON EACH OTHER FOR WARMTH.
THEY ALSO BEARED TERRIBLE WOUNDS. TO FATIGUED TO STAND, THEY WERE LOOSING THEIR SPIRIT.
THE STARVATION AND THE COLD THEY SUFFERED SEEMED TO INCREASE BY THE MINUTE.

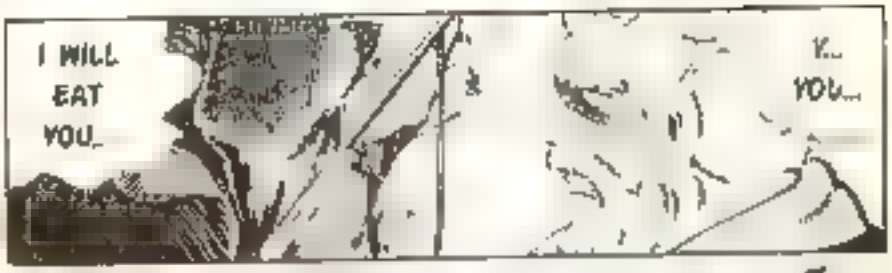
Ehh...
TRYING TO MAKE FUN OF THE BAD SITUATION SEEMED LIKE THE BEST THING TO DO.
GOHEI'S WORDS WERE JUST JOKES.
LISTEN TO ME..
RIKL.. LISTEN

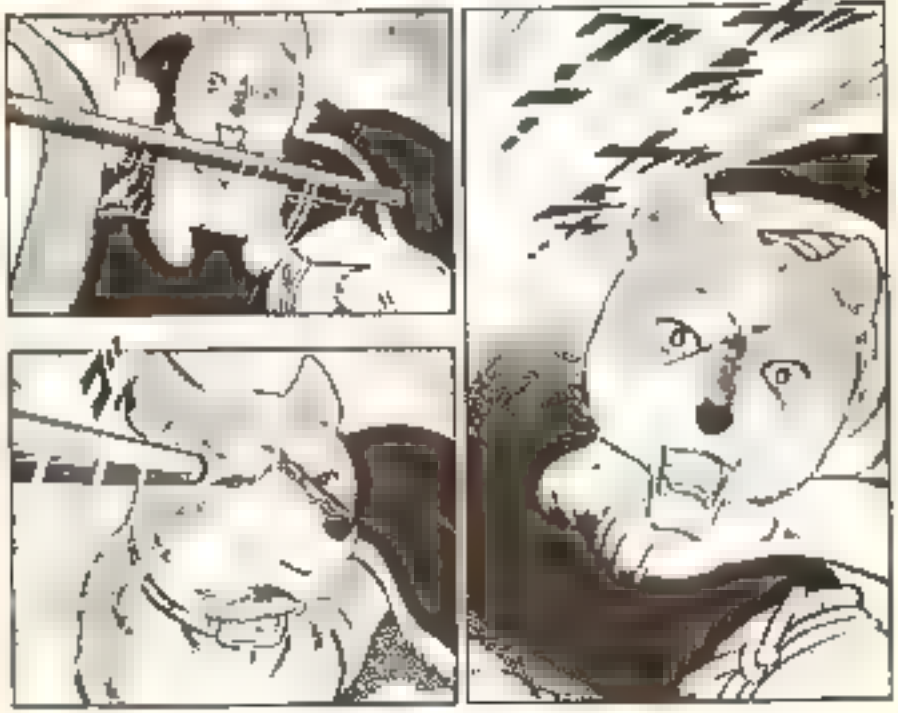
I'M DONE FOR RIKL..
I..
I MUST EAT..

THIS IS IT...
THIS IS THE ONLY WAY I CAN LIVE.

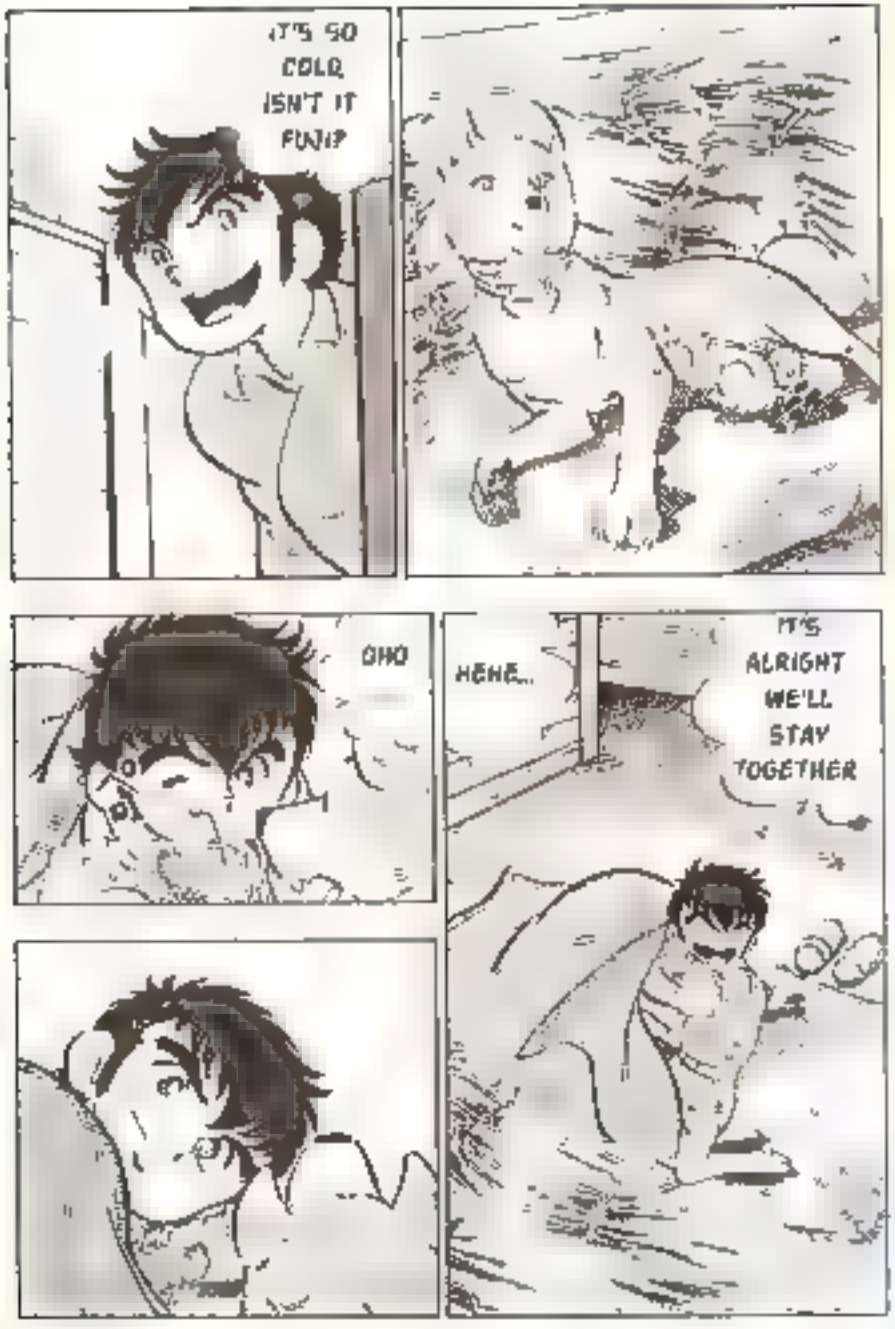
FORGIVE ME RIKI!!

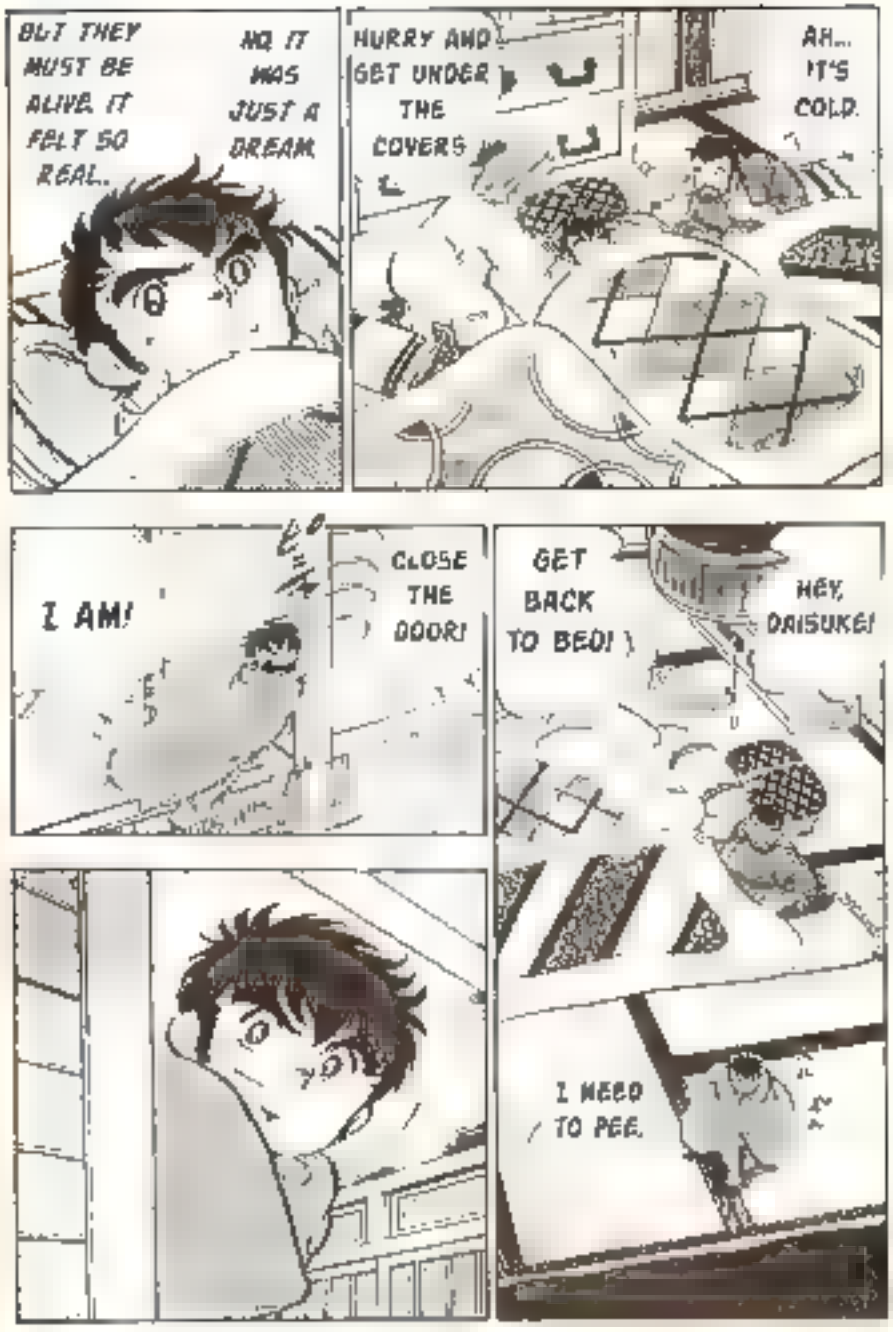



I WILL EAT YOU.
Y... YOU...

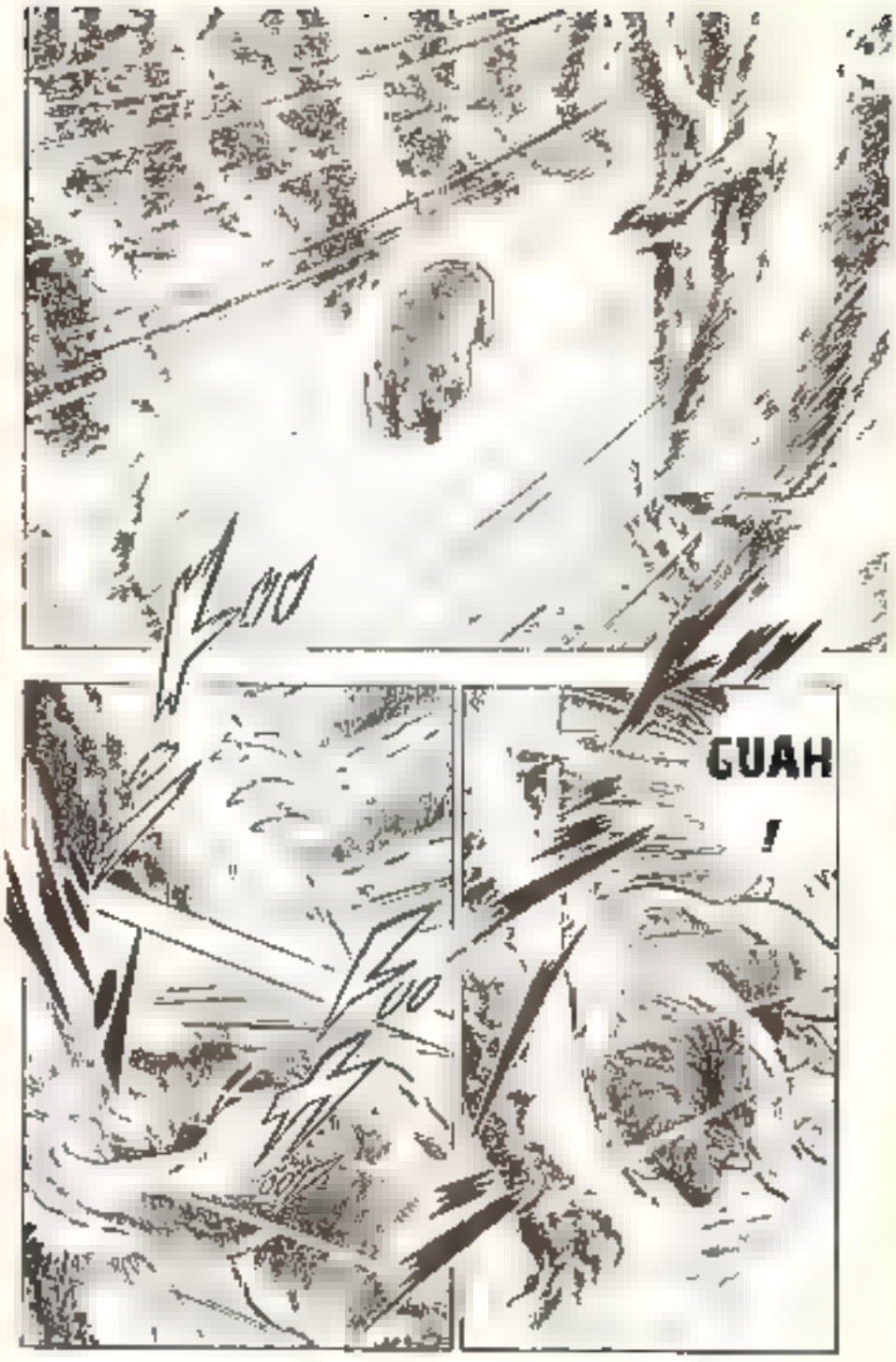


YOU SON OF A BITCH!!
HOW COULD YOU KILL YOUR OWN DOG?!
WITHOUT A DOUBT, I WILL TAKE REVENGE.
YOUR ENEMY IS HIM.
DAI-SUKE!
WHAT THE HELL?!
YOU IDIOT YOU'RE ONLY HALF AWAKE.
DA.SUKE!


IT'S SO COLD, ISN'T IT FUN!?
OHO
HEHE...
IT'S ALRIGHT WE'LL STAY TOGETHER

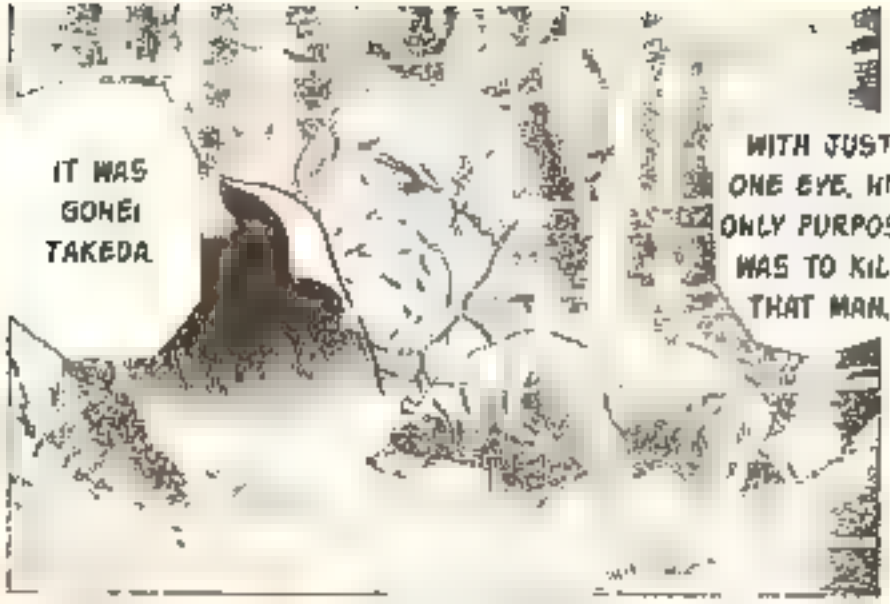

BUT THEY MUST BE ALIVE. IT FELT SO REAL..
NO IT WAS JUST A DREAM.
HURRY AND GET UNDER THE COVERS
AH... IT'S COLD.
I AM!
CLOSE THE DOOR!
GET BACK TO BED!
HEY, DAISUKE!
I NEED TO PEE.

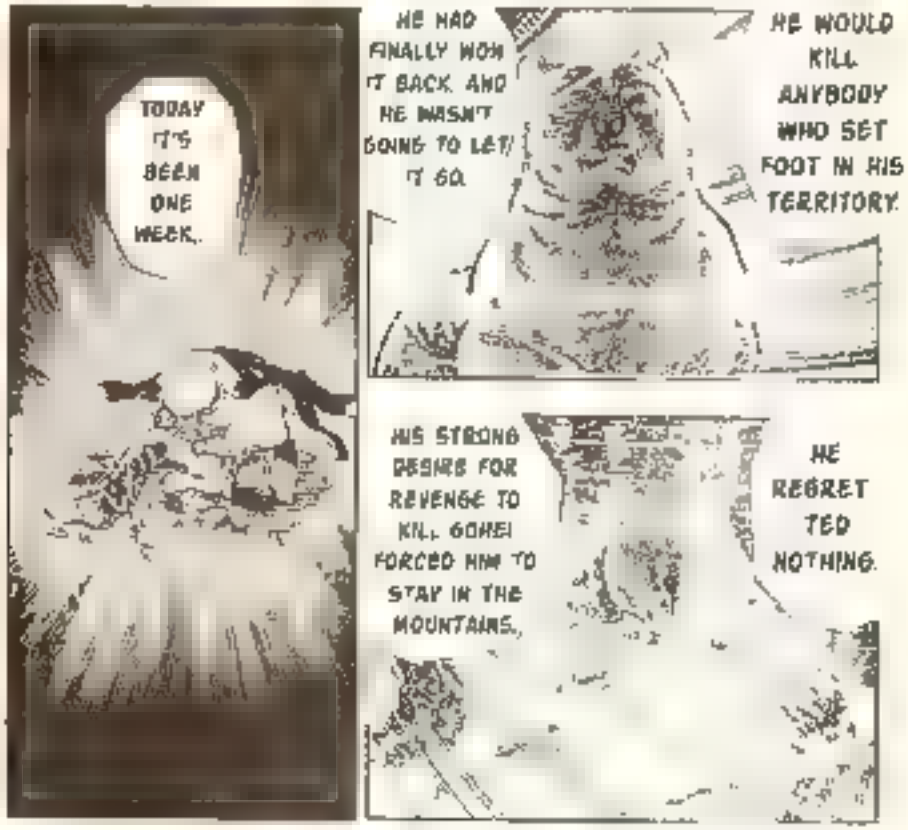
GRRAH !
AKAKABUTO AVOIDED THE SEARCH PARTY FOR THREE DAYS.
HE KNEW THAT ONCE AGAIN SEVERAL HUNDRED KILOMETRES OF MOUNTAIN HAD BEEN WON OVER TO HIM.


GUAH !

POWDERED SNOW KEPT THEM HYDRATED AND SAVED GOHEI AND RIKI'S LIVES.
MOTHER NATURE'S SYMPATHY HAS GIVEN THEM A ROCK CREVICE TO PROTECT THEM FROM THE WIND.

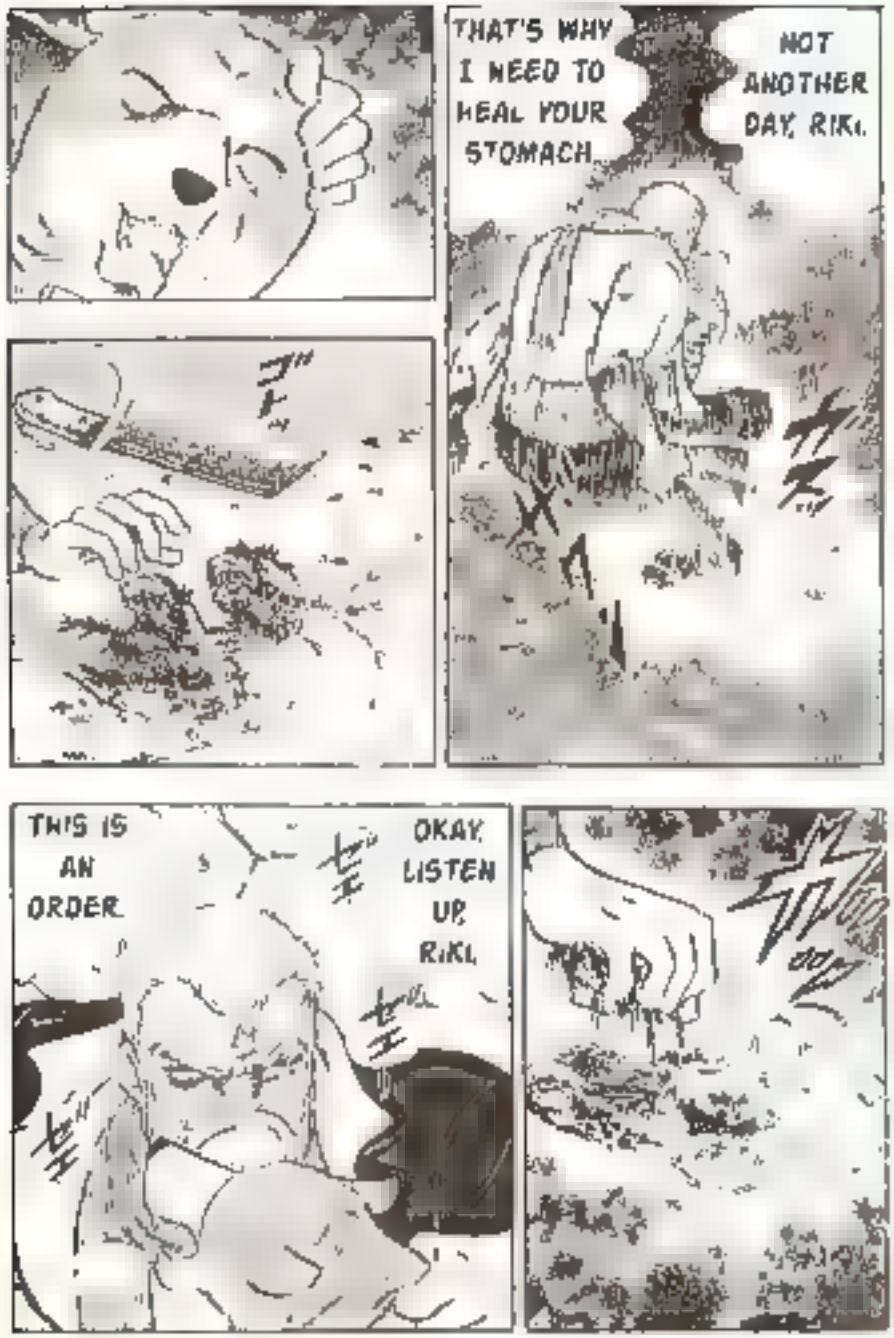
WALKING WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION.
GOHEI'S LEG WAS ALSO BADLY CUT AND TORN UP.
RIKI ALSO HAD A SEVERE WOUND RUNNING FROM HIS SHOULDER TO HIS RIBCAGE.


IT WAS GOHEI TAKEDA.
WITH JUST ONE EYE, HIS ONLY PURPOSE WAS TO KILL THAT MAN.

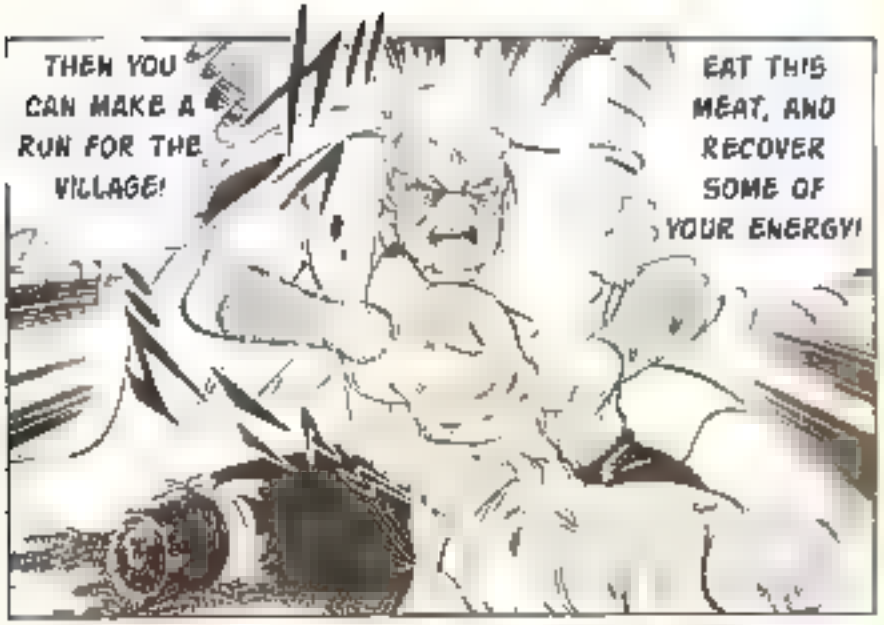

TODAY IT'S BEEN ONE WEEK.
HE HAD FINALLY WON IT BACK AND HE WASN'T GOING TO LET IT GO.
HE WOULD KILL ANYBODY WHO SET FOOT IN HIS TERRITORY.
HIS STRONG DESIRE FOR REVENGE TO KILL GOHEI FORCED HIM TO STAY IN THE MOUNTAINS.
HE REGRETTED NOTHING.

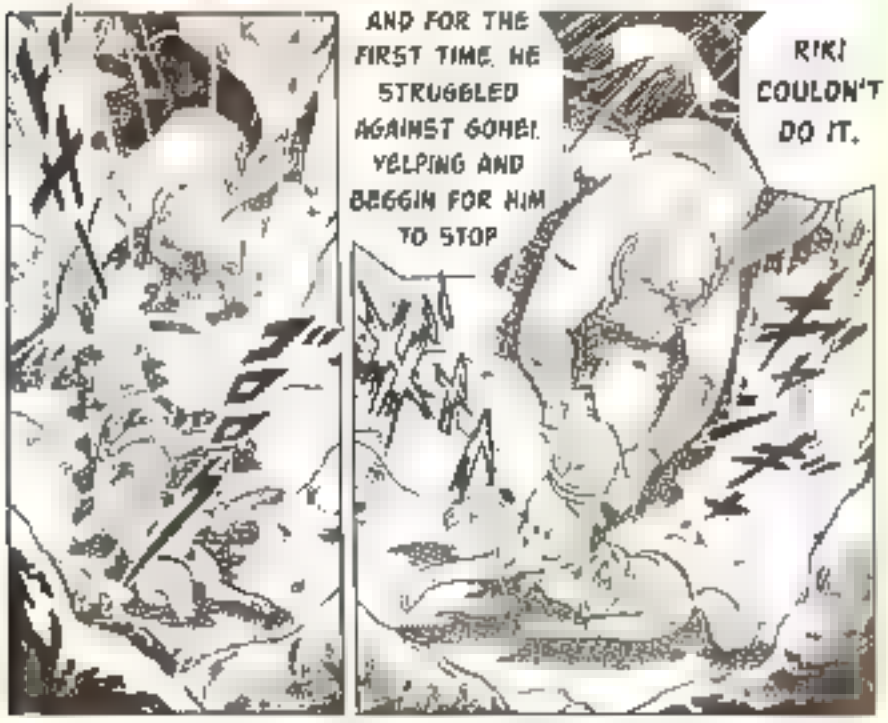
GUAAAH
!!

THIS ISN'T WORKING, RIKL
THEY WERE SURVIVING WELL, BUT THE AMOUNT OF TIME THEY'D BEEN THERE WAS NOW THE PROBLEM.
STARVING AND COLD, THEY BEGAN TO FEEL THE STABBING URGE TO GIVE UP.
HOW CAN I DO THAT IF I DON'T EXCIST?!
WELL, RIKL..
I MUST LIVE TO KILL THAT BASTARD
IT SEEMS THIS IT THE ONLY WAY OUT I'M EXHAUSTED.


THAT'S WHY I NEED TO HEAL YOUR STOMACH.
NOT ANOTHER DAY, RIKI.
THIS IS AN ORDER.
OKAY, LISTEN UP, RIKI.

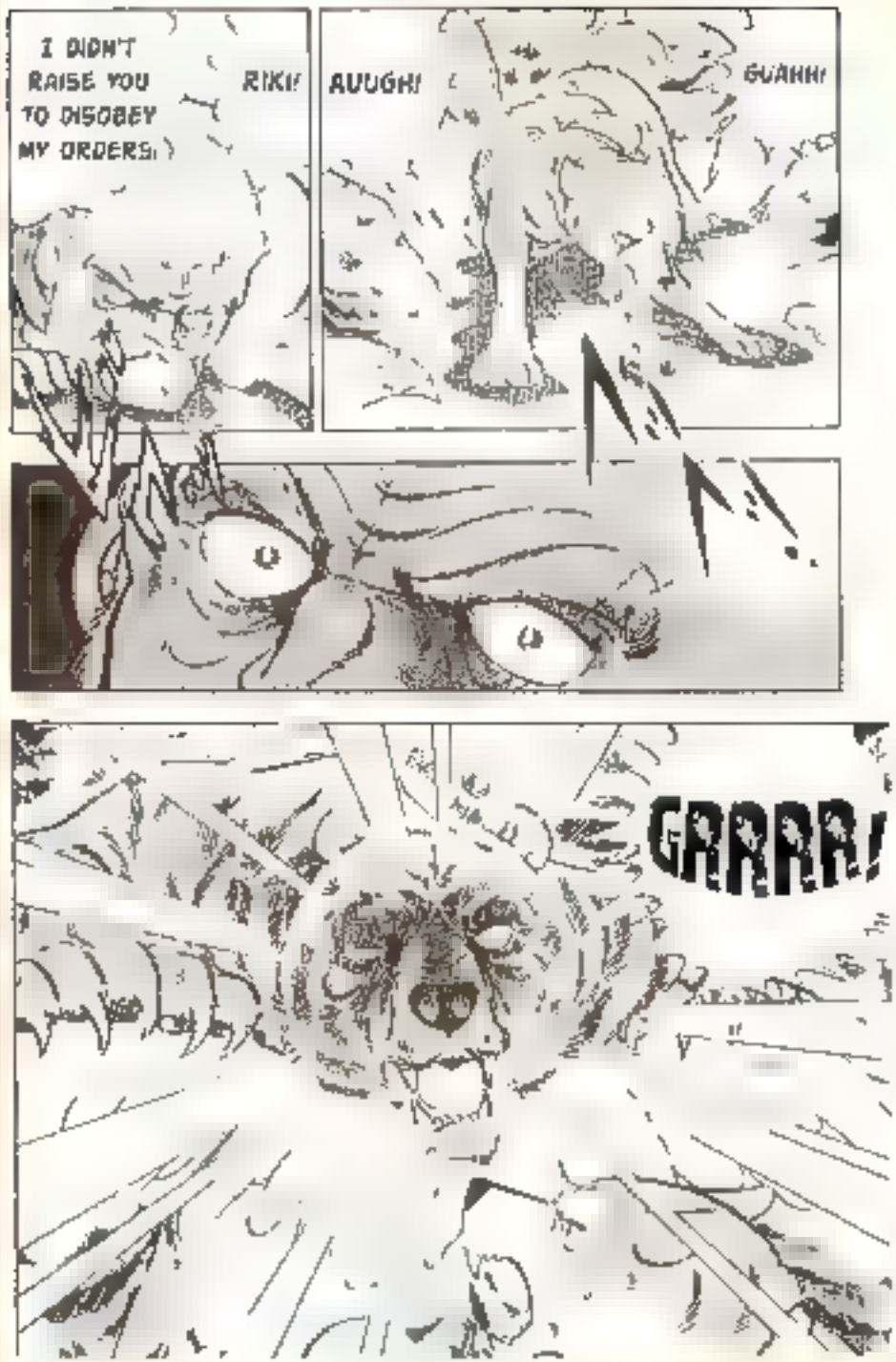
YOU'RE MY ONLY LIFELINE NOW!
!?
I CAN'T ALLOW EITHER OF US TO DIE.
I STILL HAVE TO KILL HIM.
WE CAN'T JUST SIT HERE AND DIE.

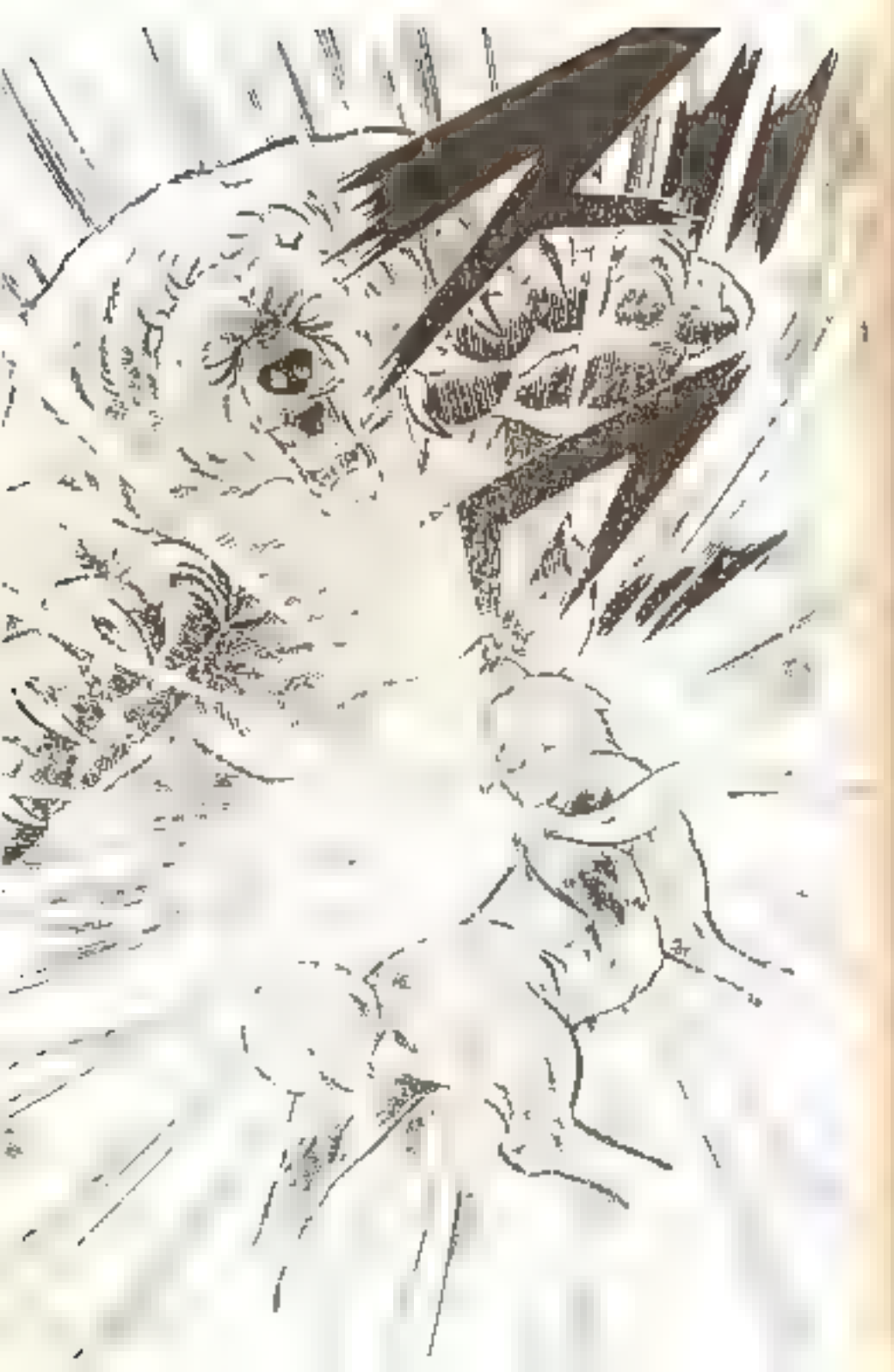

THEN YOU CAN MAKE A RUN FOR THE VILLAGE!
EAT THIS MEAT, AND RECOVER SOME OF YOUR ENERGY!


AND FOR THE FIRST TIME, HE STRUGGLED AGAINST GOHE! YELPING AND BEGGIN FOR HIM TO STOP
RIK! COULDN'T DO IT.

EAT! EAT IT, RIK!!

AKAKABUTO HAD THEM CORNERED. HE WAS LAUGHING AT THEM.
GOHEI AND RIKI WERE SUDDENLY CAUGHT IN AN EXTREME SITUATION.
THE SITUATION DOSN'T PHASE HIM IN THE LEAST
THE LOYAL BEARHOUND WAS WILLING TO THROW AWAY HIS LIFE FOR HIS OWNER
...GAVE RIK. THE STRENGHT TO STAND AGAIN.
BUT AKAKABUTO'S SIDDEN APPEARANCE...

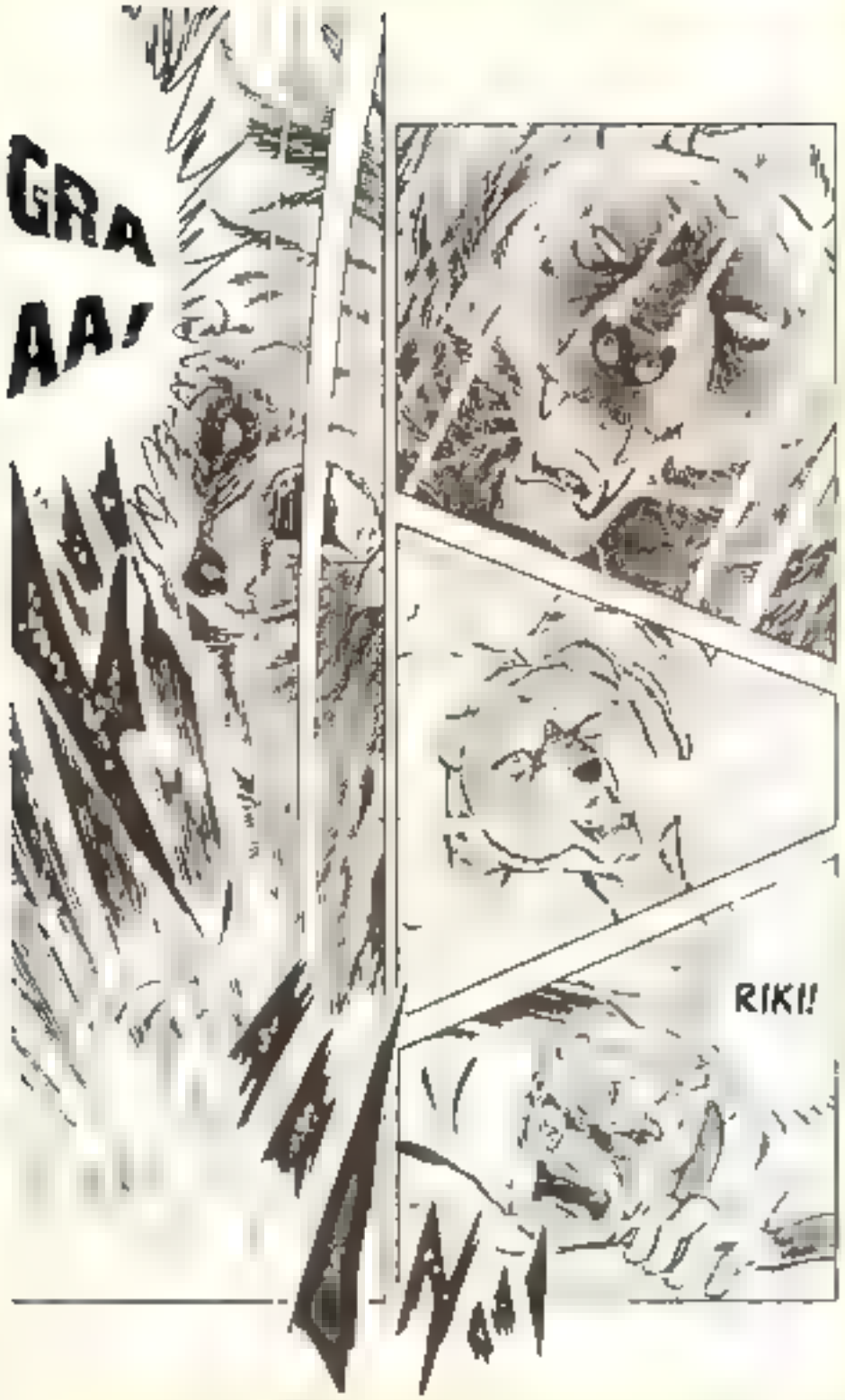

I DIDN'T RAISE YOU TO DISOBEY MY ORDERS!
RIKI!
AUUGH!
GUAHH!
GRRRR!



YOU CAN'T WIN AGAINST HIM!
RIKI, DON'T!
GUAH!
COME BACK! GET BACK HERE!
FOOL! WHY ARE YOU DISOBEY-ING ME?!

GOHEI TAKEDA IS STILL THE ONLY ONE MISSING.
WE STILL HAVE TO FIND HIS BODY.
THE KEKERO GROUP WILL LOOK AROUND THE HARADA AREA.
THIS GROUP WILL CHECK AROUND NATAKE MOUNTAIN.
TODAY WE'LL DIVIDE INTO THREE SEARCH GROUPS.
ALRIGHT, LET'S GO.
WE'LL MEET UP IN THE VALLEY!

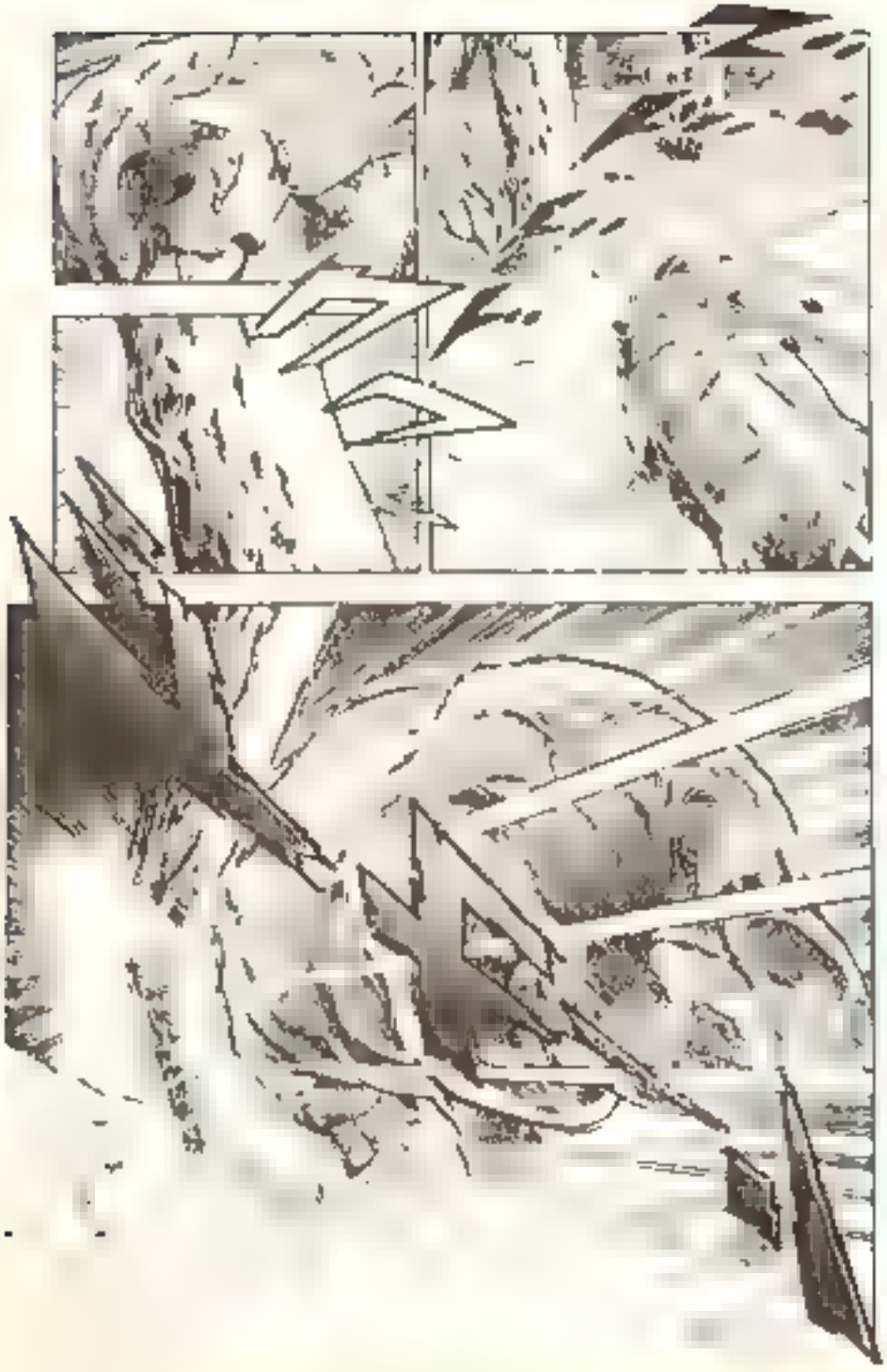
BUT NOW, DURING THE SEARCH, SHE ALSO HELPED
FUJI RETIRED FROM HUNTING BEARS ONE YEAR AGO.
WE'LL JUST GO IN AHEAD! HAH!
LET'S GO, GIN!
I CAN'T GO JUST BECAUSE I'M A KID?
DAMN
THIS ISN'T A JOKE, GIN!
I'LL JUST GO ANYWAY!


GRA
AA!
RIKI!

GRR!
KYAAA
!

!!
GAH!
KYAAA!

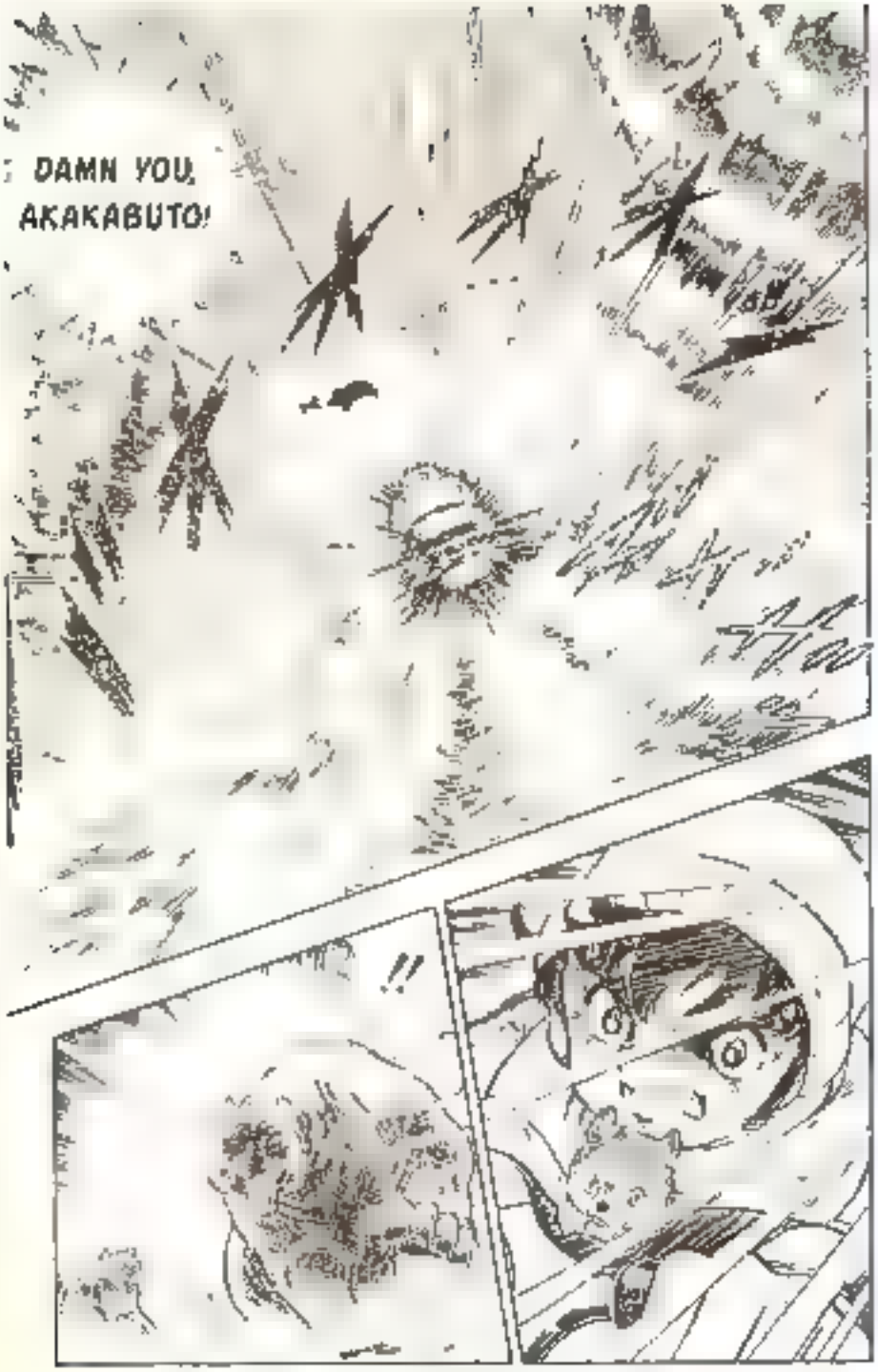
GRRR
RIKI..
NO..
YOU CAN'T DIE... JUST LIKE THAT!

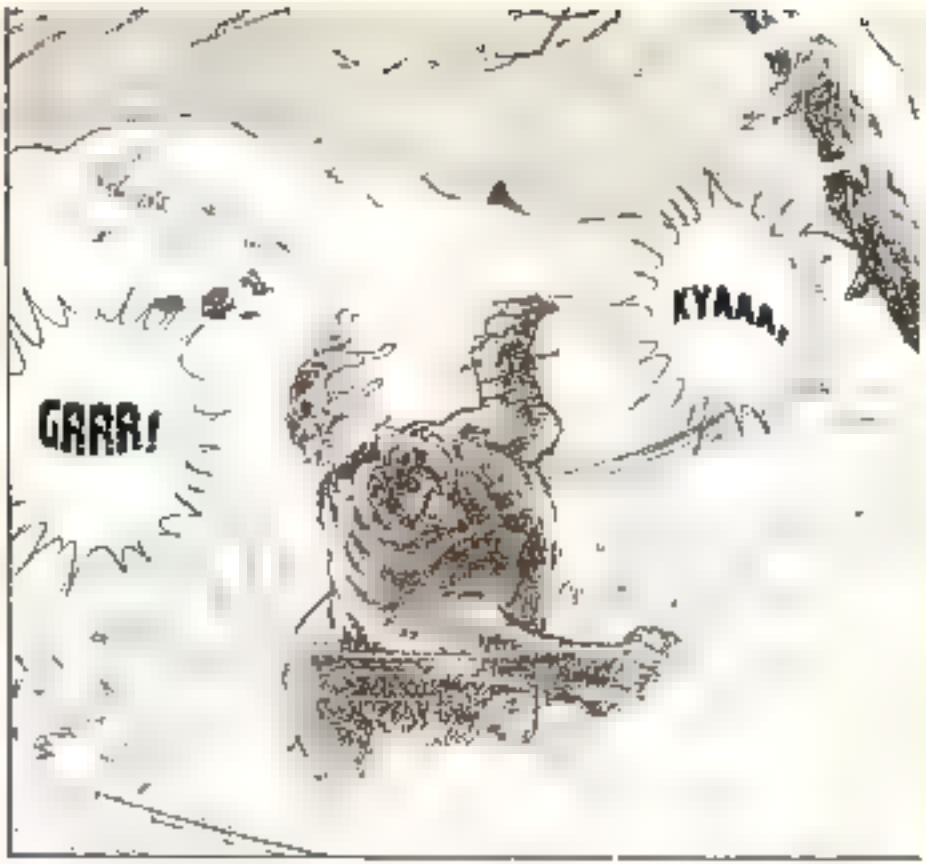


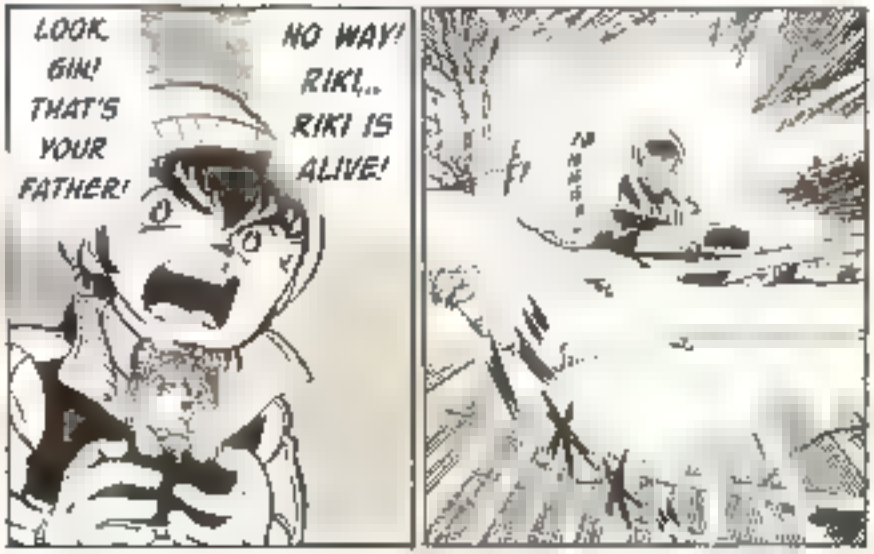
AUUGH!

AND THE STRENGHT HE POSSESSED WAS INCREDIBLE.
THE LAST REMAINING BEARHOUND IN THE DISTRICT WAS RIKL

GRR!
HIS POWER AND HIS LIFEFORCE WERE RESTING ON THE SAME LINE.
BUT HE'D YET TO SEE THE POWER AND ENDURANCE OF A REAL BEARHOUND.

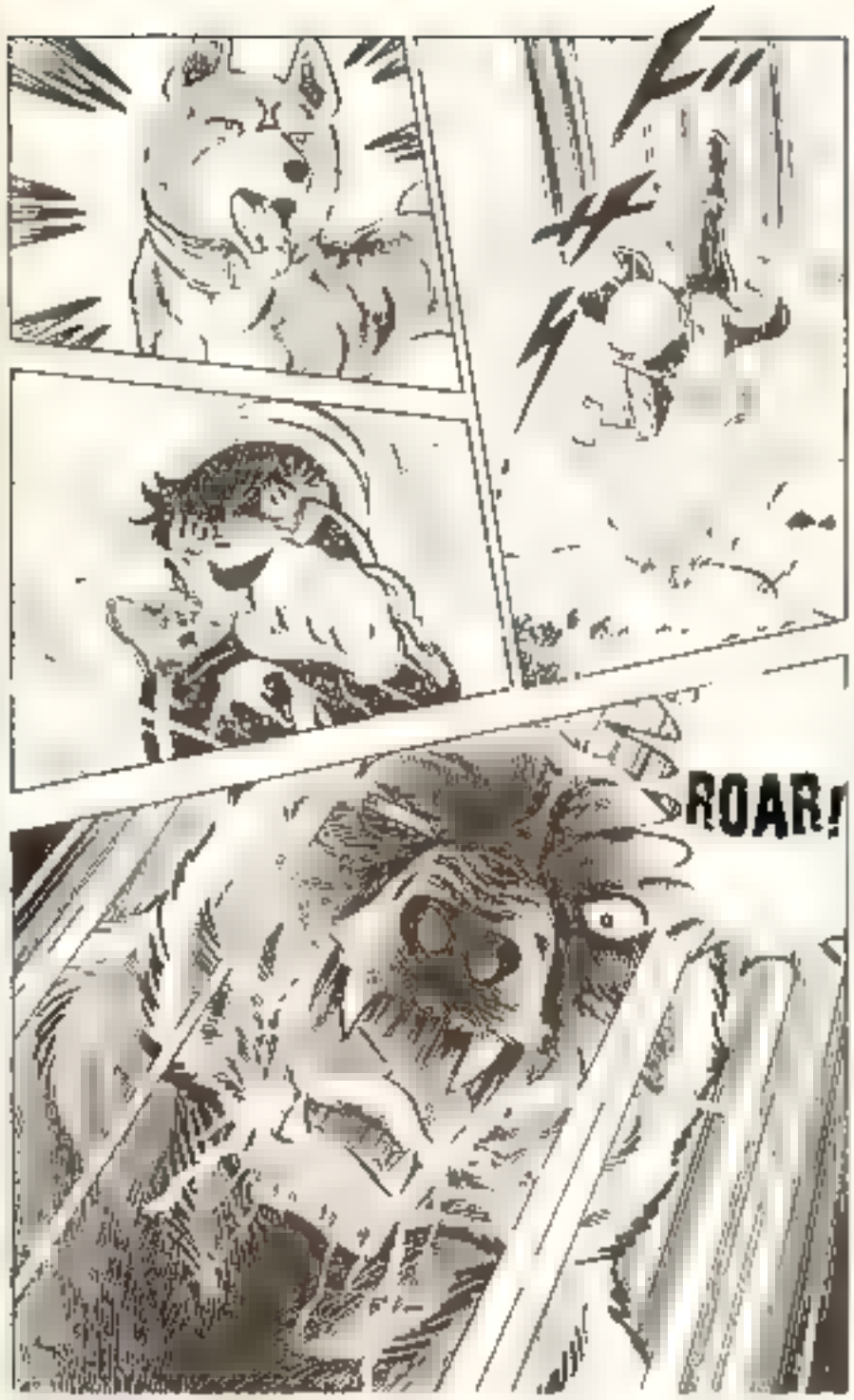

DAMN YOU, AKAKABUTO!
!!

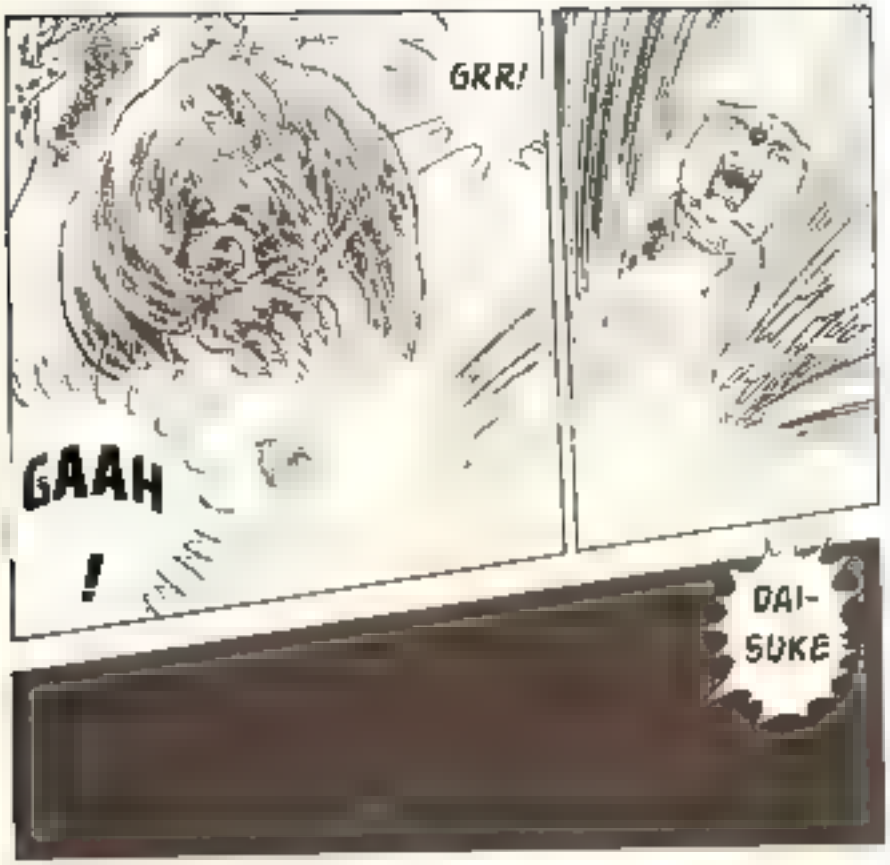

GRRR!
KYAAA,


LOOK, GIN! THAT'S YOUR FATHER!
NO WAY! RIKI... RIKI IS ALIVE!

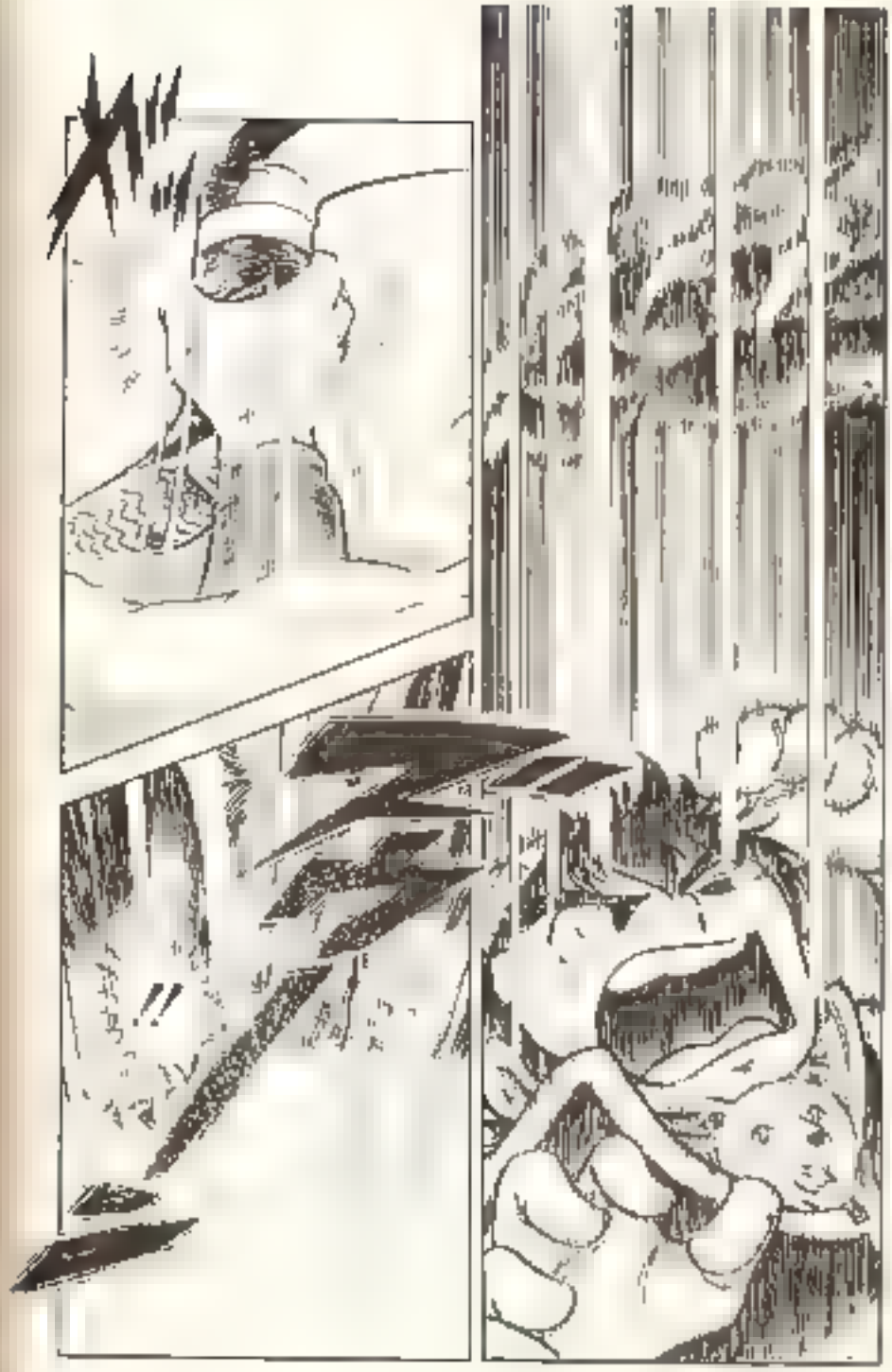
EAT THIS,
BASTARD!

AAH!
RIKI!


ROAR!


GRR!
GAAH
!
DAI-
SUKE

UH?!
HEY,
DAI-
SUKE!


!!

GRR !
GAAA!
DON'T, DAISUKE !
GIN!
IF YOU GO OUT THERE NOW, YOU'LL ALSO GET KILLED!
GIN DIDN'T EVEN YET KNOW WHAT FIGHTING WAS.
THERE HE STOOD, JUST ONE WEEK O.D.
HE WAS TRYING TO DISTRACT AKAKABUTO AWAY FROM GIN.
RIKI WAS'T GOING TO LET HIS SON GET HARMED.

HE MISSED YOU BY AN INCH.
THAT WAS DANGER OUS, DAISUKE.
I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE ALIVE!
IT IS REALLY YOU, GRANDPA!
IT IS REALLY YOU?
GRAND PA?!
WHAT?! RIKI'S PUP?
GIN?
BUT GIN..!
OH SHIT HE MUST HAVE STAYED UP THERE WHEN I WAS DRAGGED DOWN!
THE PUPPY, RIKI'S SON!

BORN NOT LONG AGO, GIN FELT THE FEAR STRIKE AND FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, FELT THE NEED TO RUN
GIN!

BUT THE CONSTANT ATTACKS WERE BEGINNING TO TAKE THEIR TOLL.
YIPE!
RIKI!
GRAAAR!

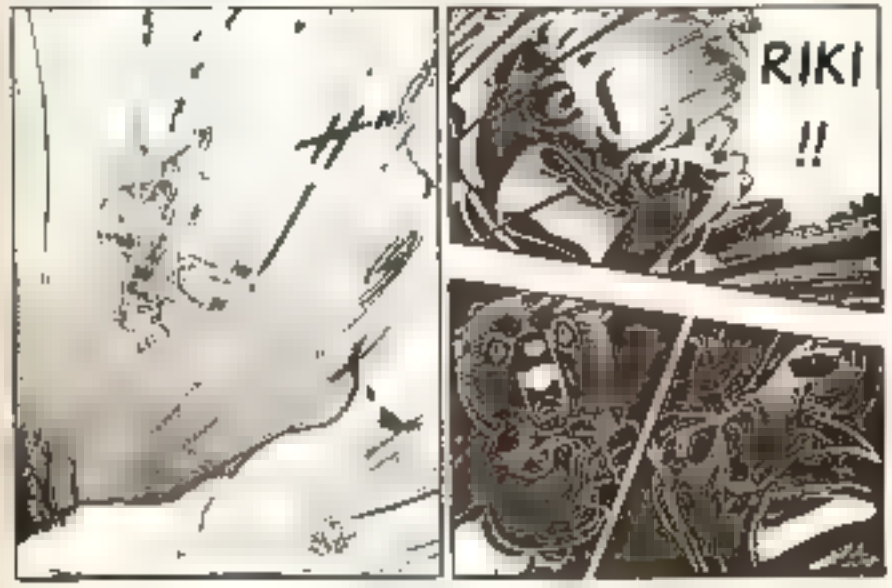
RIKI!
!?
THE BEAR HOUND HAD NO ENERGY LEFT TO FUEL HIS LIFE.
HE HAD A SEVERE WOUND ON HIS BACK. HIS ENERGY, STRENGHT AND WILLPOWER WERE DYING AND HE HAD NOT EATEN OR DRUNK FOR A WEEK.
I...I CAN'T MOVE MY BODY!

ARR!
RIKI! HURRY, COME ON!

GIN!
YIPE
!

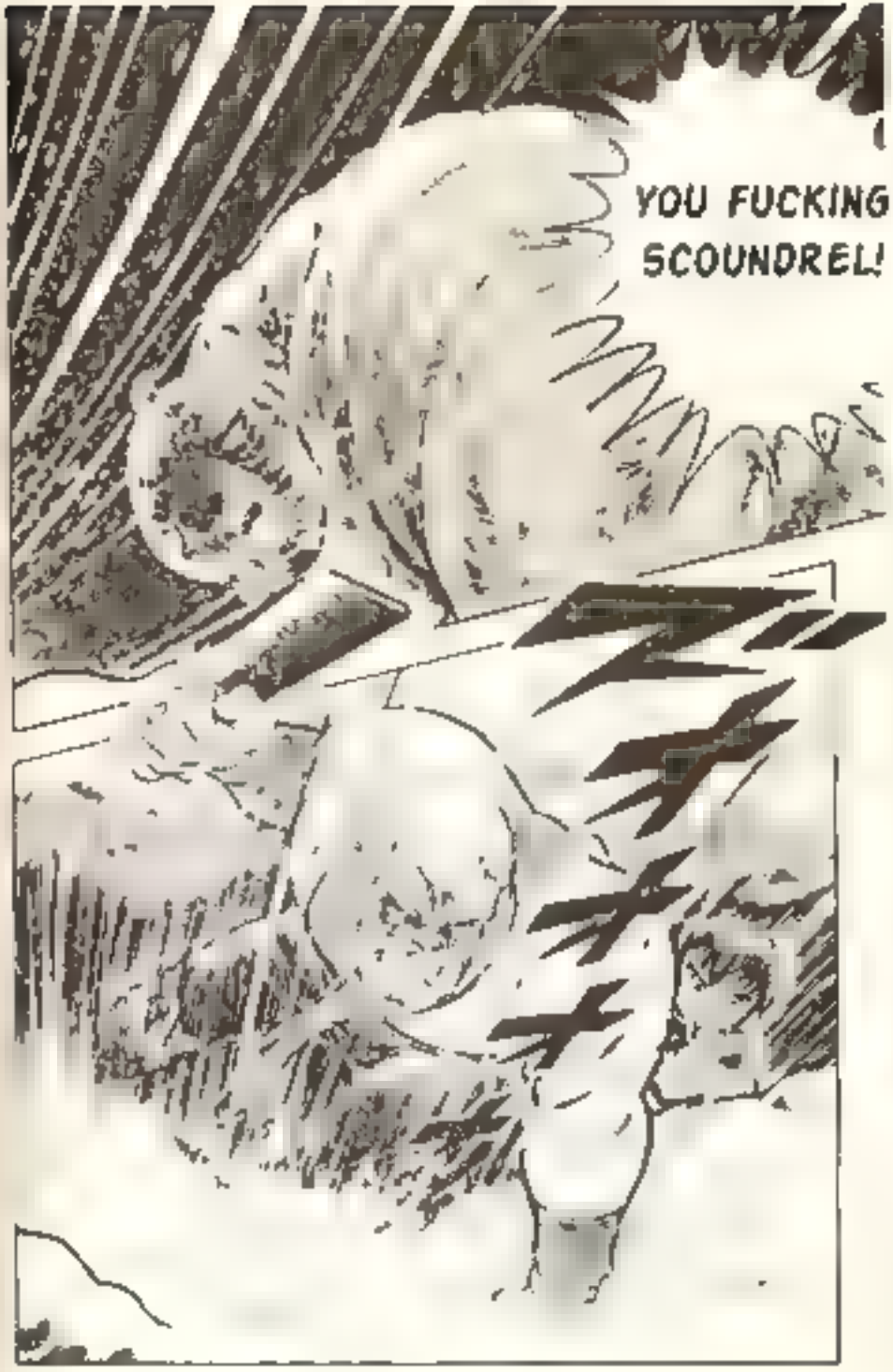
ROAR!!

AND TO RIKI'S SON, SIN. AKAK ABUTO DELT A BLOW HE WOULD NEVER FORGET
THE YELPS OF PAIN FELL DOWN WITH HIM INTO THE BOTTOM OF THE VALLEY
RIKI WAS GIVEN ANOTHER DEEP WOUND AND FRESH BLOOD TRAILED FROM IT


RIKI
!!

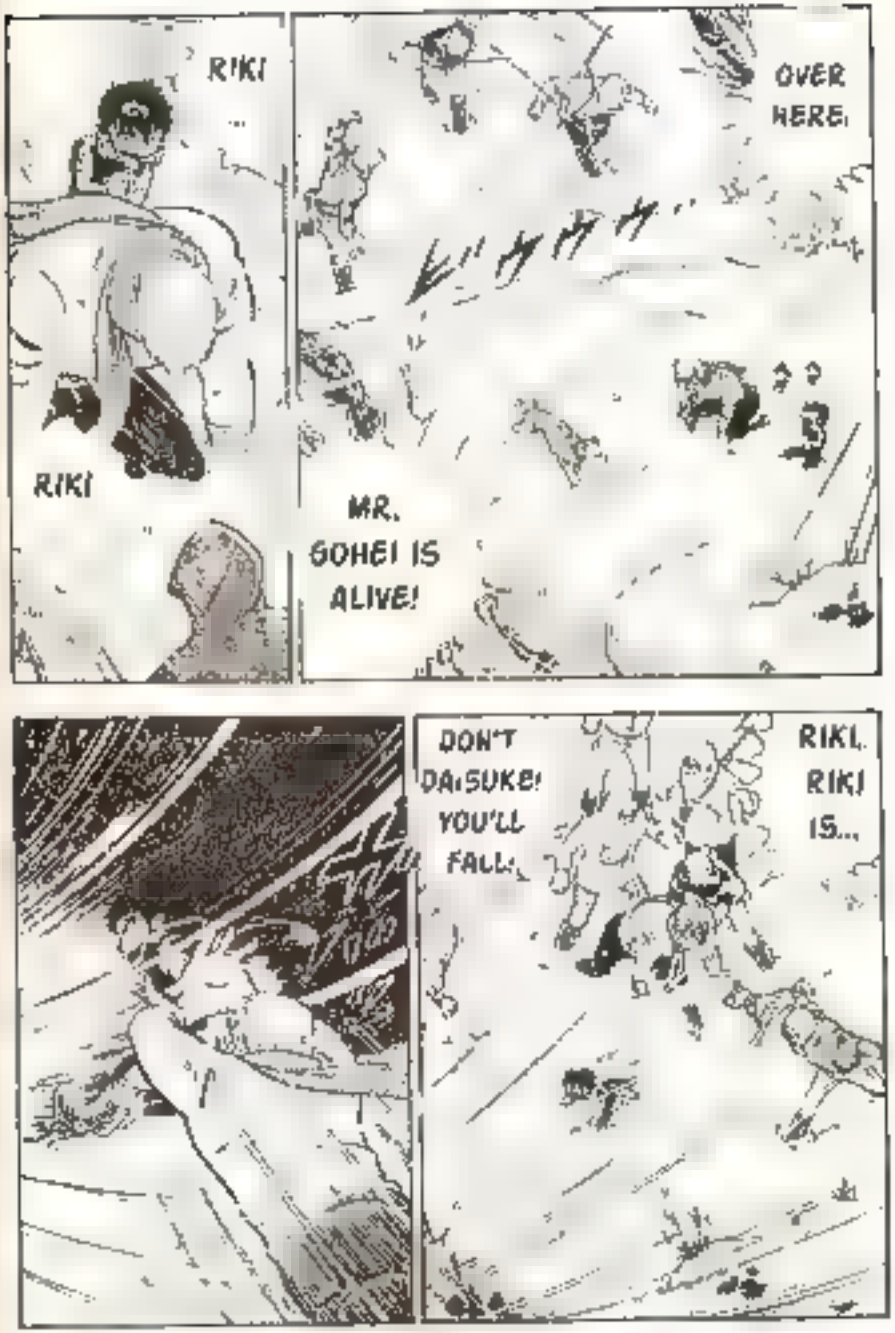
COME ON!
WELL, YOU GOT WHAT YOU WANTED!

STOP, GRANDPA!
COME AND EAT ME IF YOU DARE!


YOU FUCKING SCOUNDREL!

DAD AND THE OTHERS ARE HERE!
IT'S MY DAD!
HEY! IS ANYBODY OUT THERE?!
OVER HERE! I'M SURE I HEARD A VOICE OVER HERE!

OH DAMN
RIKI..
RIKI!!
WAS RIKI KILLED ?
RIKI
YOU CERTAINLY DIDN'T DIE A USELESS DEATH..
RIKI.. I PROMISE THIS TO YOU.


RIKI
RIKI
OVER HERE!
MR. GOHEI IS ALIVE!
DON'T DAISUKE! YOU'LL FALL!
RIKI. RIKI IS...

AN AMAZING TORA-GE PUP
YOU'VE GIVEN AN AMAZING PUP TO US.
FUJI
WHINE

AND NOW A THIRD GENERATION OF BEAR-HOUND BLOOD FROM HERE A NEW BEGINNING STARTS.
FIRST IT HAD BEEN RIKI'S FATHER AND NOW GIN'S FATHER RIKI HAD FALLEN PREY TO THE CLAWS OF AKAKABUTO.
ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY: KEI
EDITING BY: WWW.GINGASITE.NET
GINGA NAGAREBOSHI GIN
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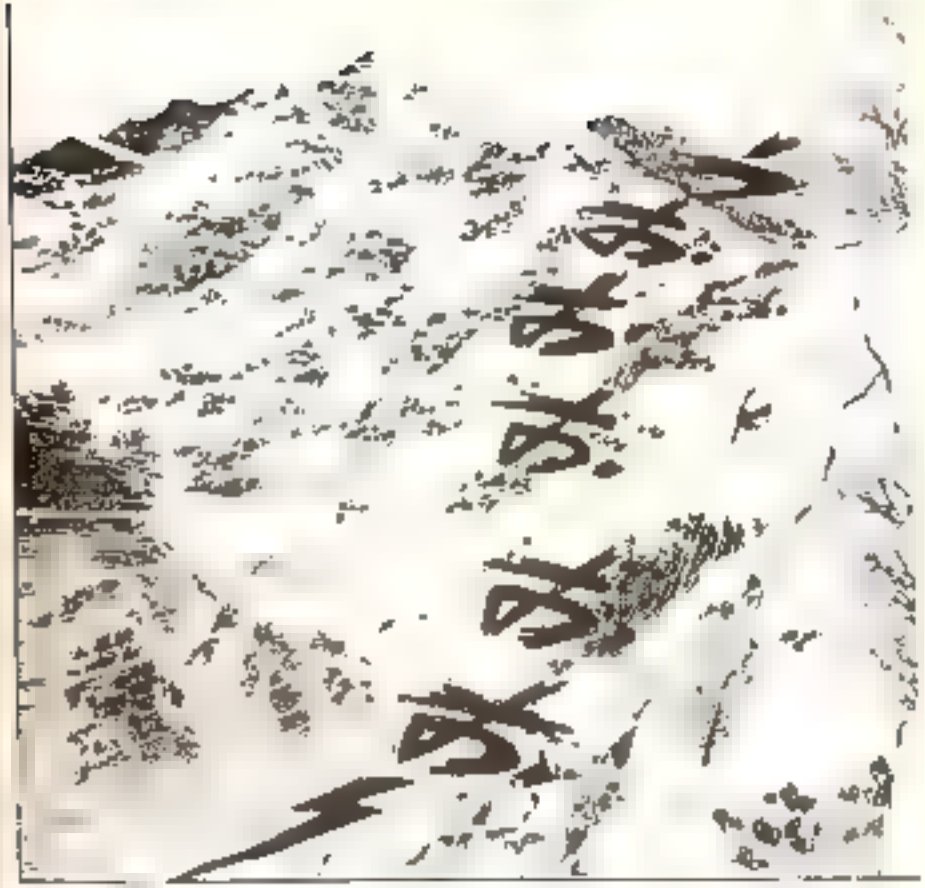
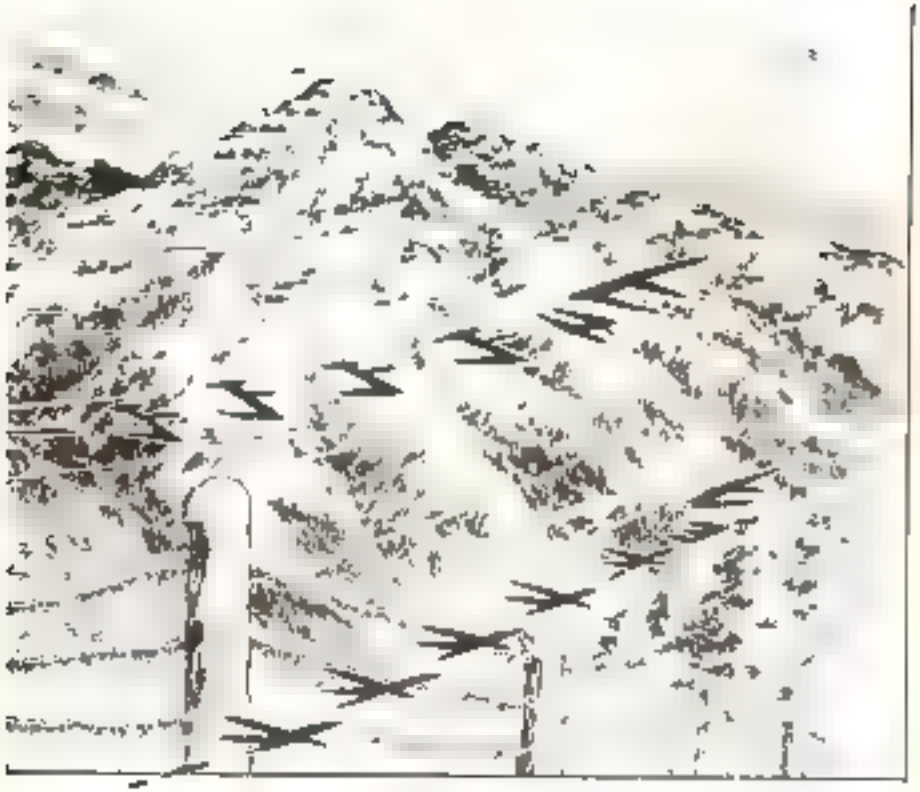
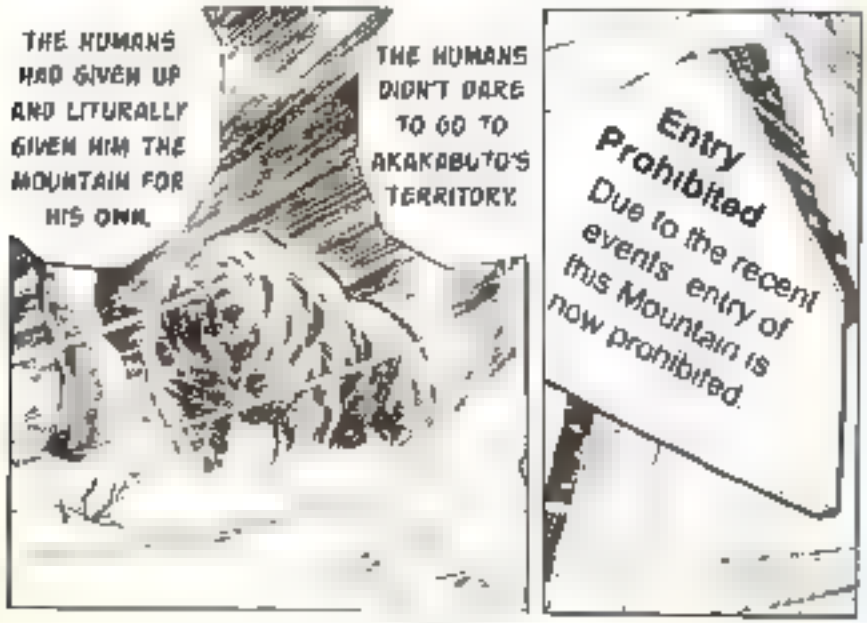


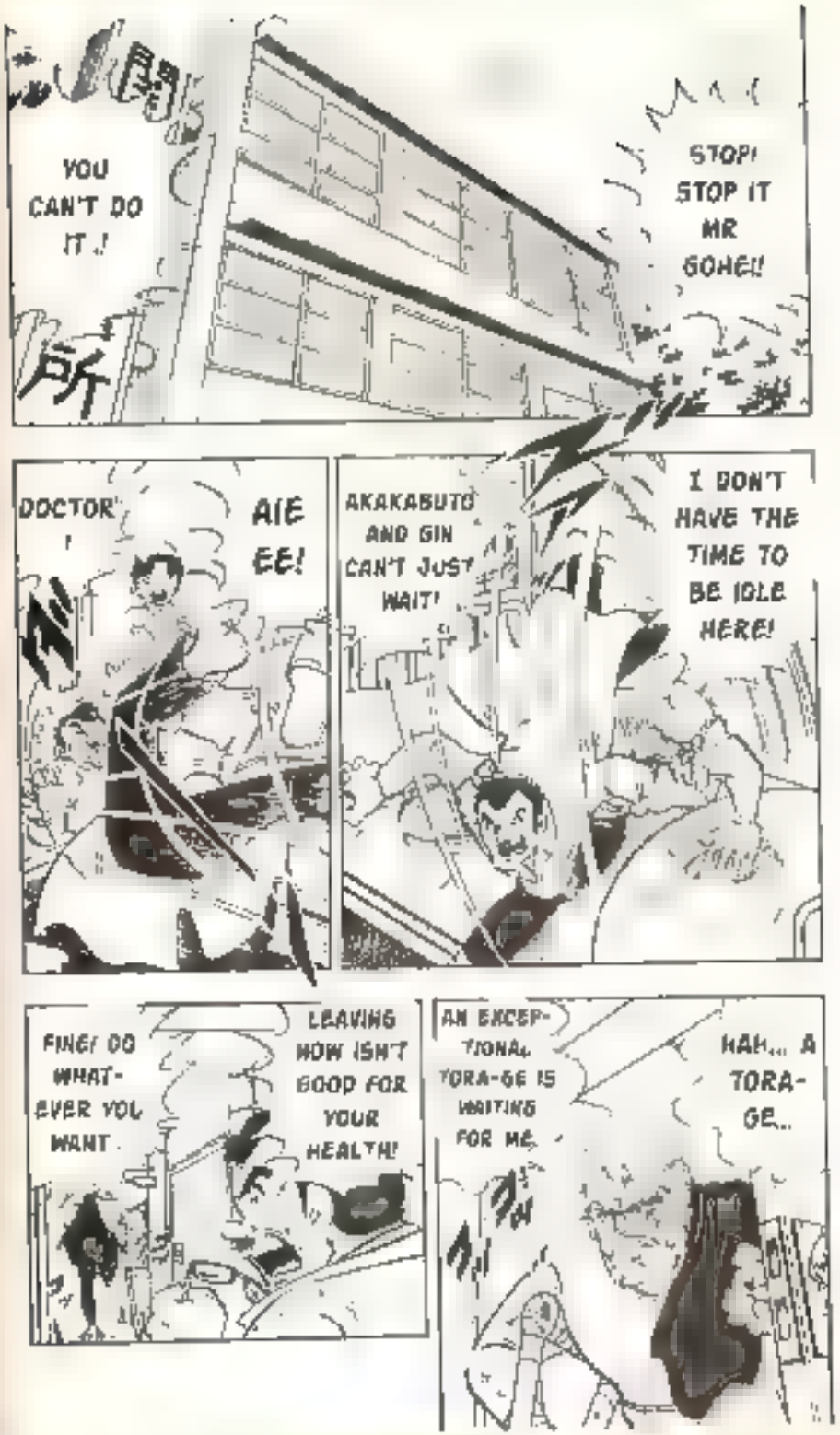
GRAND PA!
HURRY AND GET A STRE-CHER!



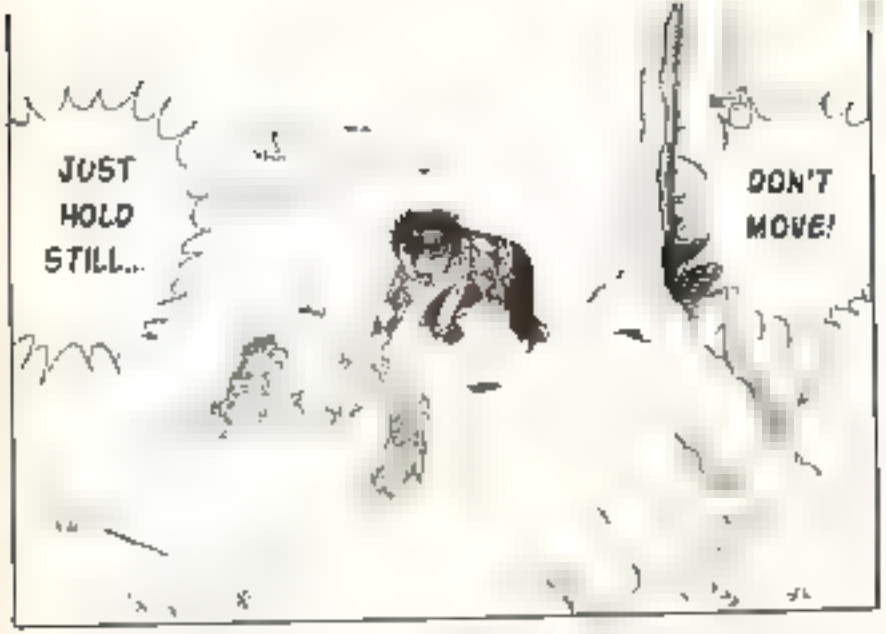

THE HUMANS HAD GIVEN UP AND LITURALLY GIVEN HIM THE MOUNTAIN FOR HIS OWN.
THE HUMANS DIDN'T DARE TO GO TO AKAKABUTO'S TERRITORY.
Entry Prohibited
Due to the recent events entry of this Mountain is now prohibited.

CHAPTER 3: THE TRIALS BEGIN

HE REFUSED TO LET THEM GIVE HIM HIS MEDICATION.
HE WAS BEING REALLY VIOLENT
HE MIGHT TRY TO TAKE GIN FROM YOU
YOUR GRANDFATHER HAS LEFT THE HOSPITAL TODAY?
DAISUKE, DID YOU KNOW..
WHAT? BUT HE'S MEANT TO STAY THERE FOR THREE MONTHS!
BAD, ISN'T IT..
HE'S PROBABLY GOING TO WANT THE BEST PUPPY WE HAVE NOW.
HE'S AN EXPERT ON BEAR HUNTING, BUT HE'S ALSO AN EXPERT ON DOG KILLING!
WHEN HE TRAINS NEW PUPPIES, HIS TRAINING IS SO STRICT THAT NINE OUT OF TEN DIE
YOU'LL HAVE TO GIVE HIM UP.


YOU CAN'T DO IT..!
STOP! STOP IT MR GOHEI!
DOCTOR!
AIEEE!
AKAKABUTO AND GIN CAN'T JUST WAIT!
I DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO BE IDLE HERE!
FINE! DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.
LEAVING NOW ISN'T GOOD FOR YOUR HEALTH!
AN EXCEPTIONAL TORA-GE IS WAITING FOR ME.
HAH... A TORA-GE..

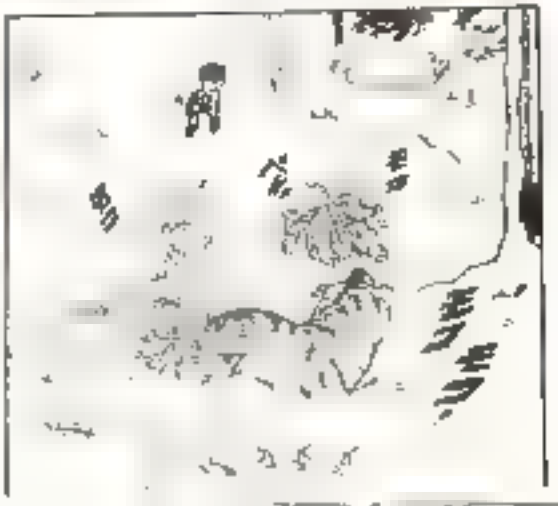
HEY, GIN! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
OVER HERE! IT'S THIS WAY!


JUST HOLD STILL...
DON'T MOVE!

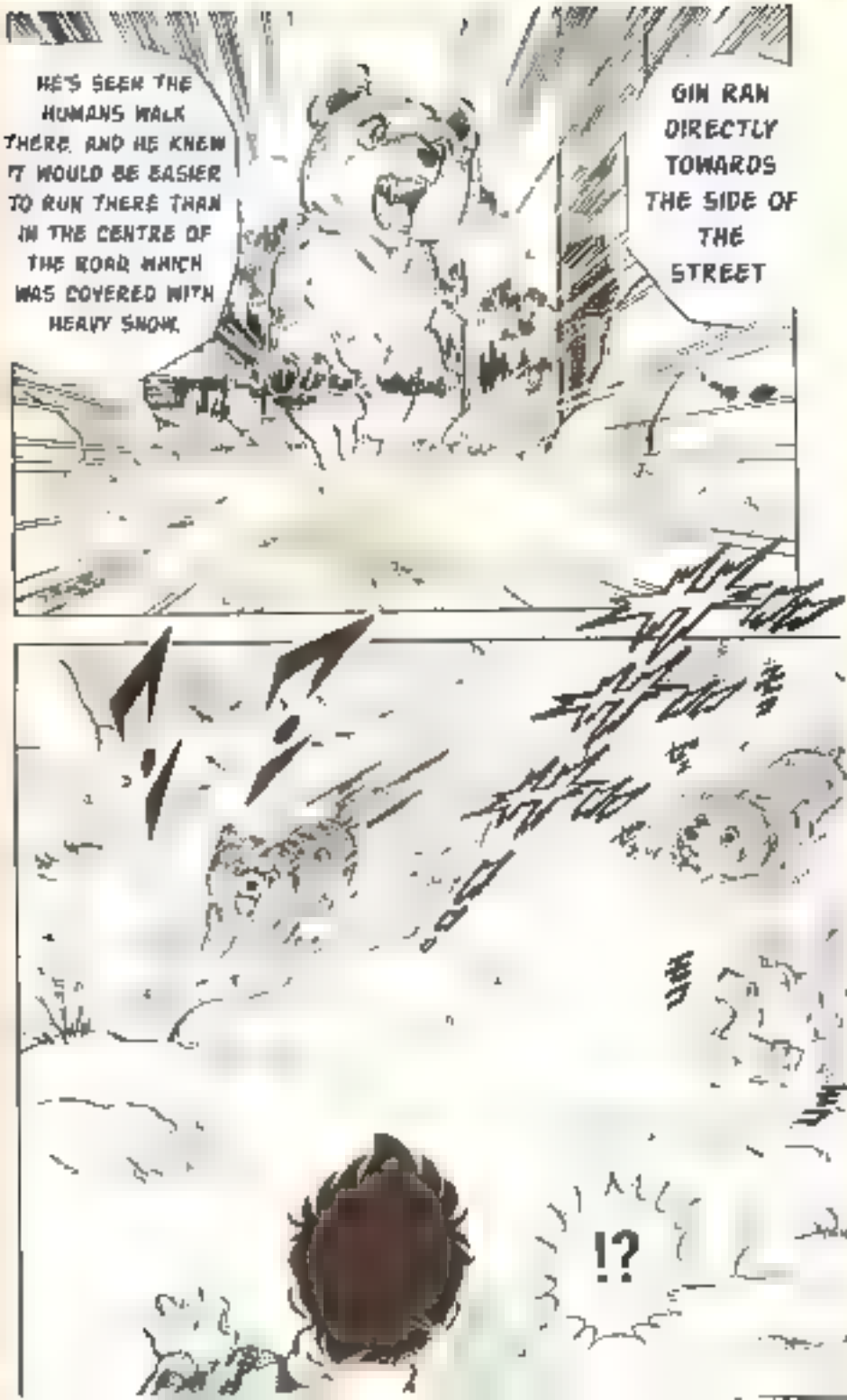
OVER HERE!
ALRIGHT COME ON!

YOU ALL UNDER-STAND, DON'T YOU?
OKAY, OKAY.

HUH?

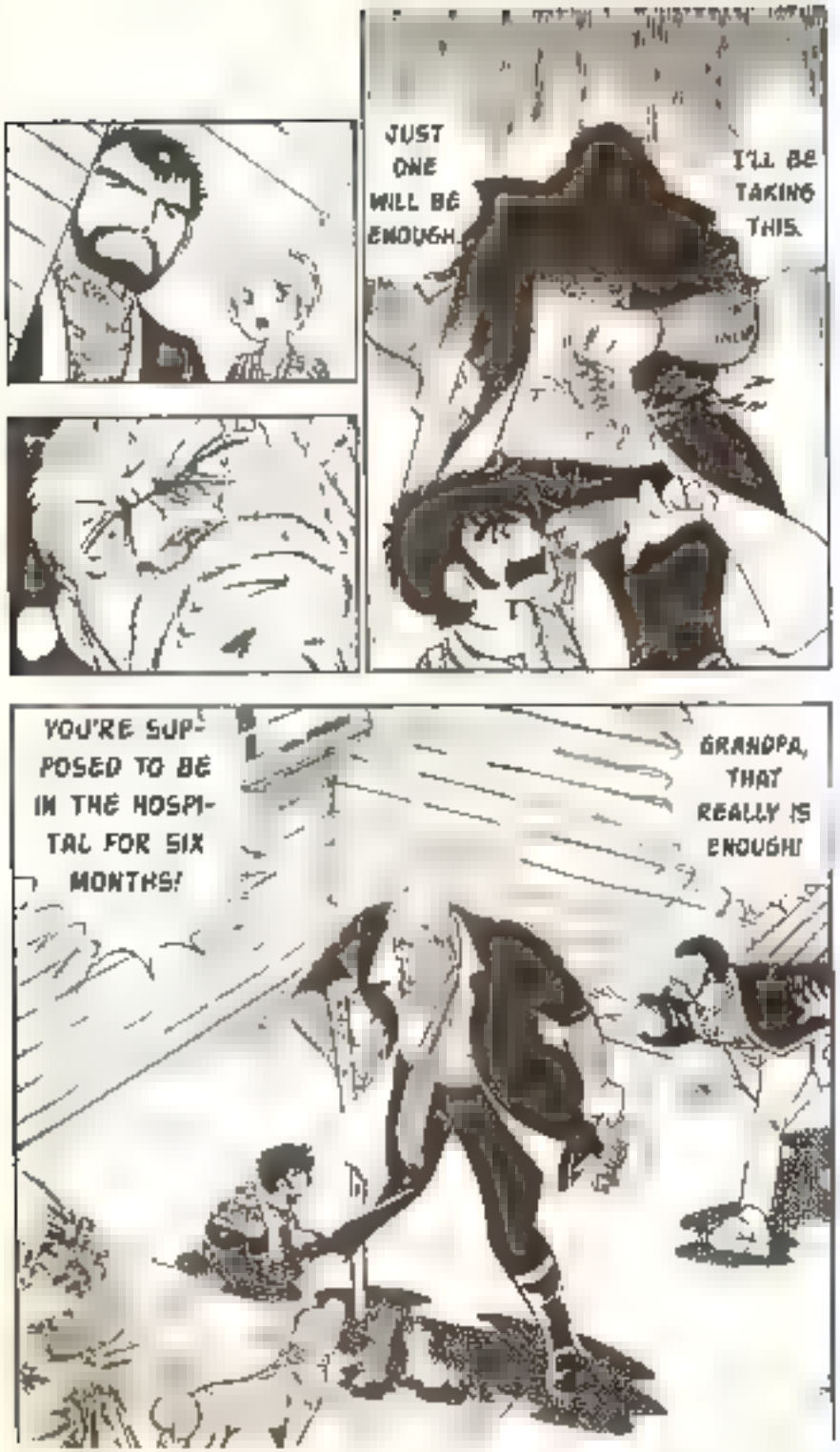


WAH!
I SEE!
THE TORA-GE LEGEND ISN'T JUST A MYTH..
HE REALLY IS ONE OF A KIND.
HERE, YOU..!
GRRA RR...


HE'S SEEN THE HUMANS WALK THERE. AND HE KNEW IT WOULD BE EASIER TO RUN THERE THAN IN THE CENTRE OF THE ROAD WHICH WAS COVERED WITH HEAVY SNOW.
GIN RAN DIRECTLY TOWARDS THE SIDE OF THE STREET
!?

WHIM
-PER
OVER
HERE.
NOW!
DON
HOW DARE
YOU EVEN
THINK OF
YOURSELF AS
RIKI'S SUBOR
-DINATE?!
YOU
STUPID
DOG!
!!
GRANDPA,
STOP!
YOU'LL
KILL HIM!
YOU
REALLY
SHOULD
HAVE DIED
LONG AGO!
YIPE!
WHINE!

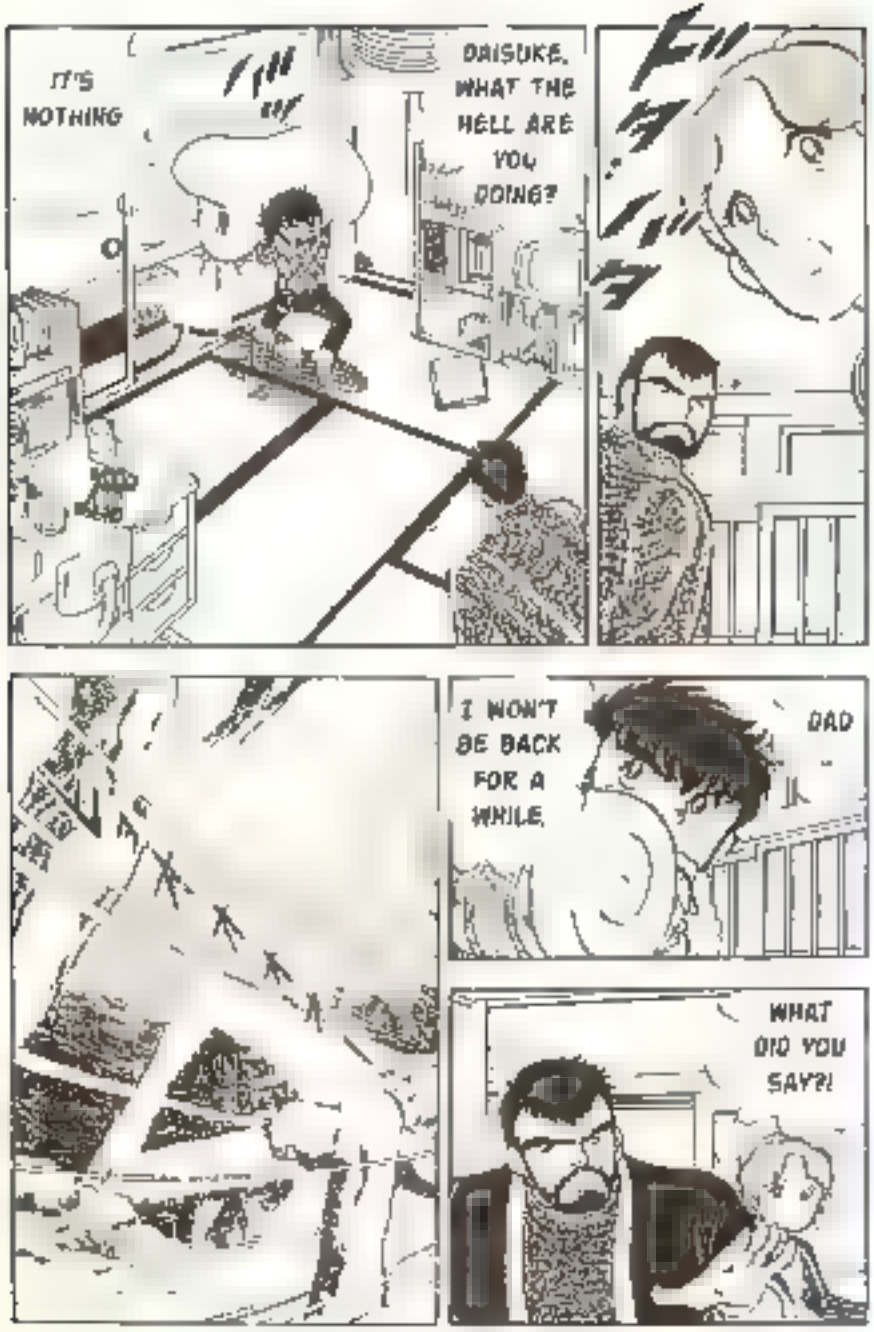
WHAT IF
HE DOES
GET YOU
BUT
WHAT IF
GRANDPA
WANTS
HIM?
YOU
REALLY
ARE RIKI'S
SON!
HEHE.
YOU'RE
GREAT!
GRANDPA
TAKEDA
BROUGHT
BACK
ANOTHER
HUGE BEAR!
WOAH,
WHAT A
HUGE
BEAR.
WOW.
WHERE DID
YOU MEET
HIM?


JUST ONE WILL BE ENOUGH.
I'LL BE TAKING THIS.
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE IN THE HOSPITAL FOR SIX MONTHS!
GRANDPA, THAT REALLY IS ENOUGH!

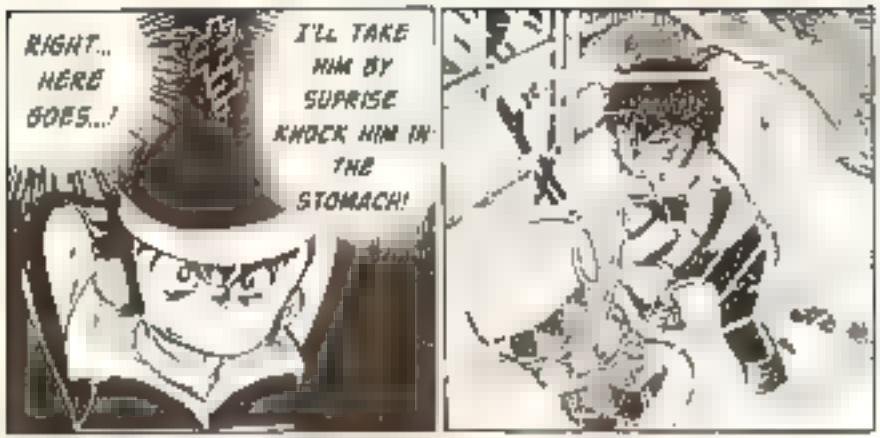
AND AT ONLY ONE MONTH OLD HE WASN'T EVEN WEANED YET
DAISUKE WAS WORRIED HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO KEEP HIS COMPANION.
!?

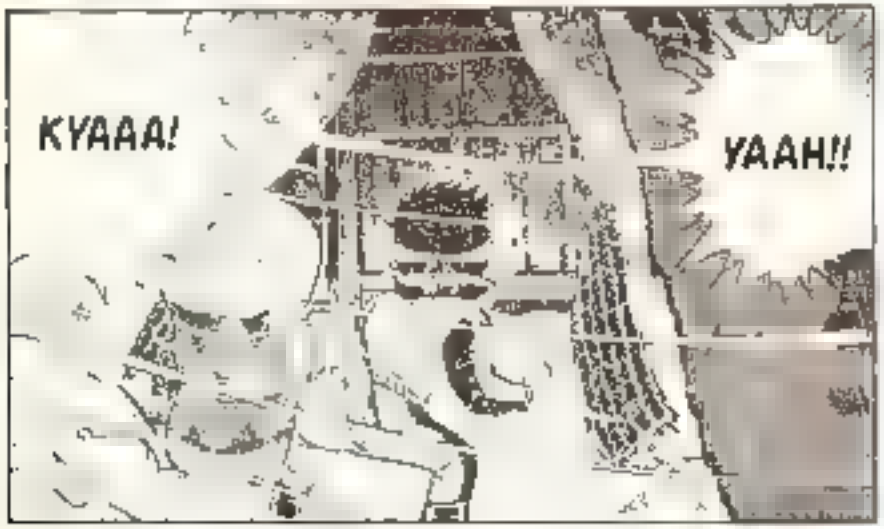
WHINE
YIPE!
EEE!
GOOD BYE.
THE OTHER PUPPIES ARE USELESS.

RRR RR..
YOU WON'T GET GIN!
SHIT! YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE GRANDPA!
RRR!
GRR!

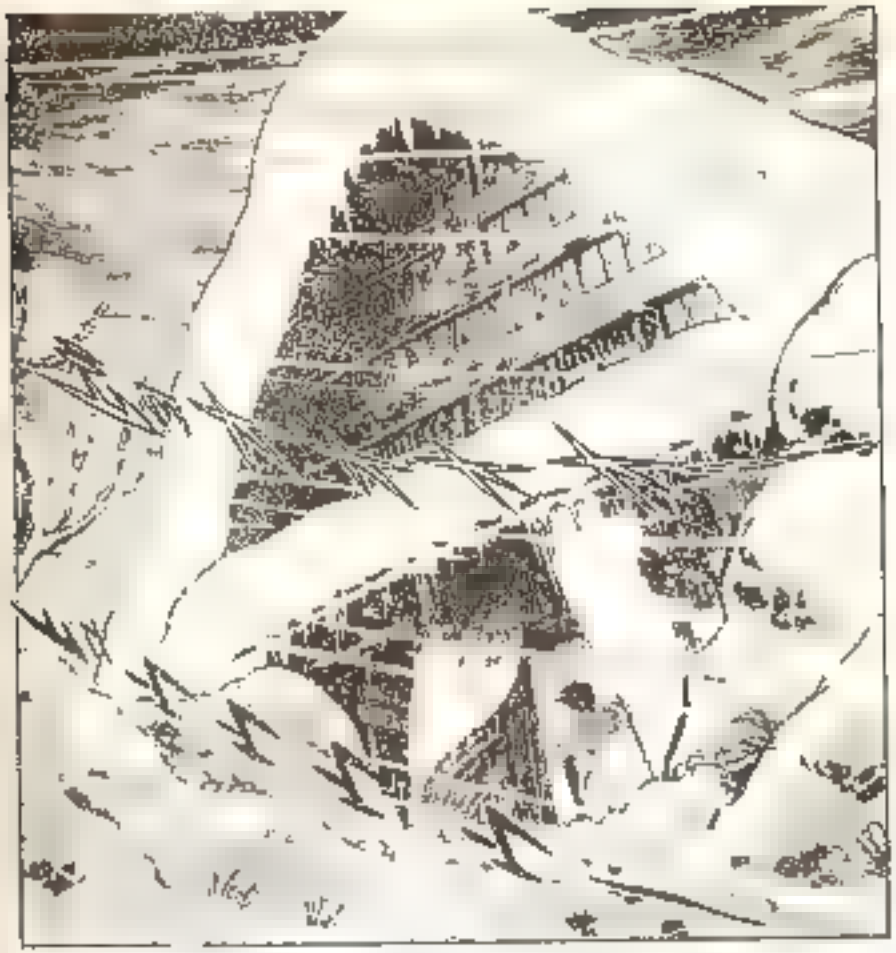

IT'S NOTHING
DAISUKE, WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
I WON'T BE BACK FOR A WHILE.
DAD
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

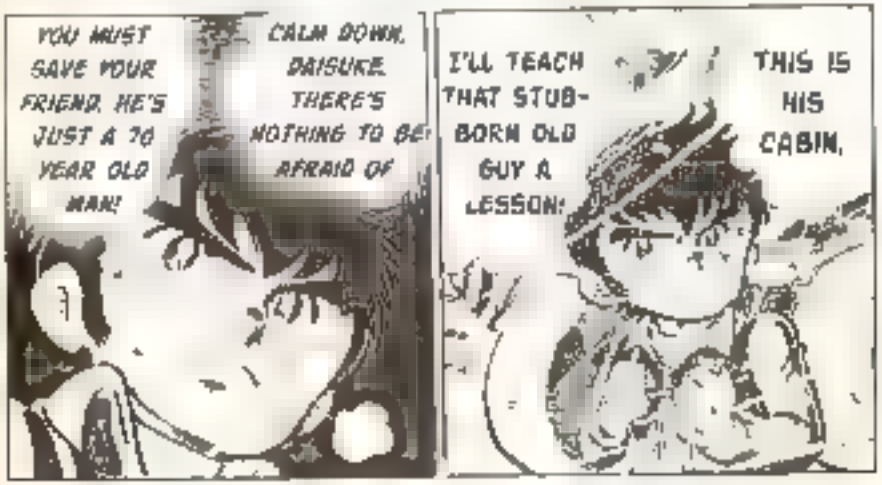
SHIT.. DAMN YOU!
STOP THAT DA'SUKE!
MAKE HIM A GOOD BEARHOUND, GRANDPA.
I WON'T LET YOU KILL GIN, GRANDPA!
IF YOU HURT HIM, I WILL KILL YOU!


RIGHT... HERE GOES...!
I'LL TAKE HIM BY SUPRISE KNOCK HIM IN THE STOMACH!


KYAAA!
YAAH!!

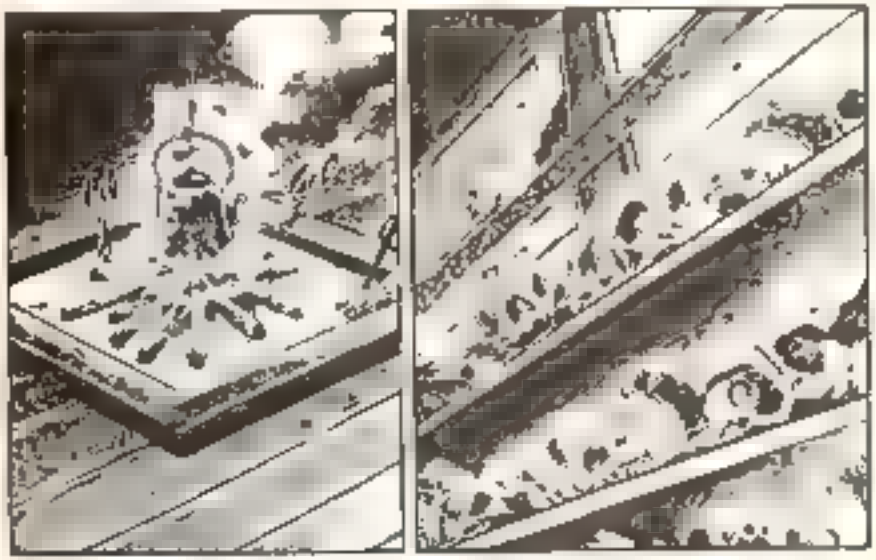
GIN!




YOU MUST SAVE YOUR FRIEND. HE'S JUST A 70 YEAR OLD MAN!
CALM DOWN, DAISUKE. THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF
I'LL TEACH THAT STUB-BORN OLD GUY A LESSON!
THIS IS HIS CABIN.

HI... WHERE ARE YOU?!
GIN!!

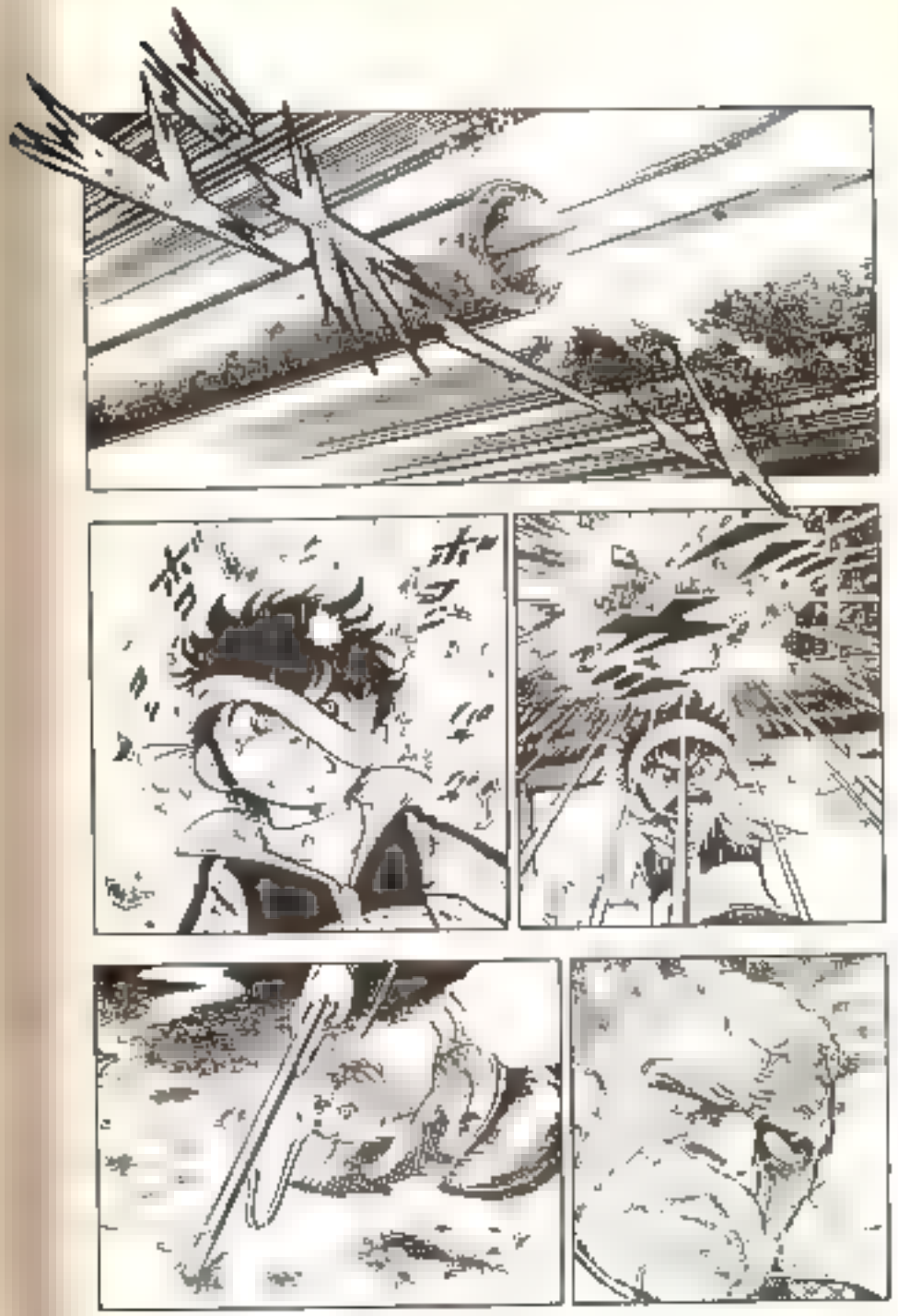
WHY DID YOU COME HERE, DAISUKE?

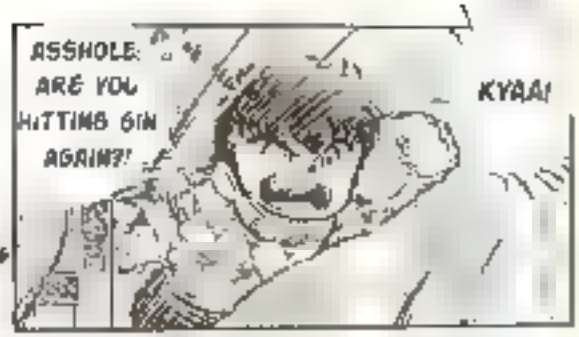


IT'S JUST A HUNTER'S LEGEND. DON'T FORCE GIN TO FOLLOW SUCH STUPID SUPER-STITION!
YOU KEEP SAYING "TORA-GE, TORA-GE"
YOU ARE TOO YOUNG TO UNDER-STAND
TEN YEARS OF LIFE YOU'VE LIVED COMPARED TO THE 100'S OF YEARS HUNTERS HAVE EXPERI-ENCED
WHA..?!
A REGULAR BEARHOUND CAN'T WATCH CLOSELY!
A TORA-GE CAN TAKE A LOT

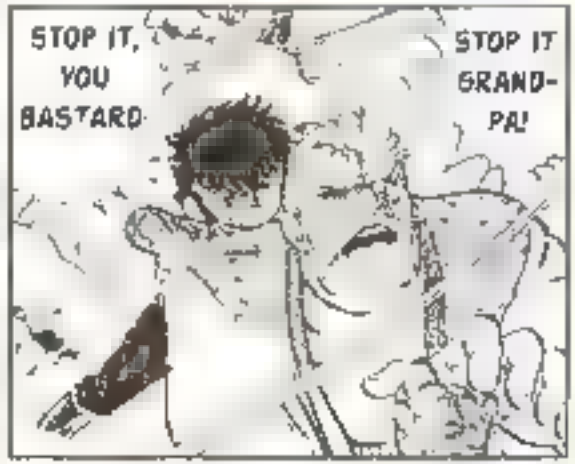
YOU CALL THAT TRAINING?! GIN IS ONLY ONE MONTH OLD! IT'S TOO EARLY TO TRAIN HIM.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, GRANDPA?!
WHY DID YOU COME OVER HERE?
HE IS ALSO RIKI'S SON. A REAL BEAR-HOUND TRAIN-ING CAN START AS EARLY AS NOW!
GIN IS NOT A NORMAL DOG HE'S A TORA-GE.
GUH ..!

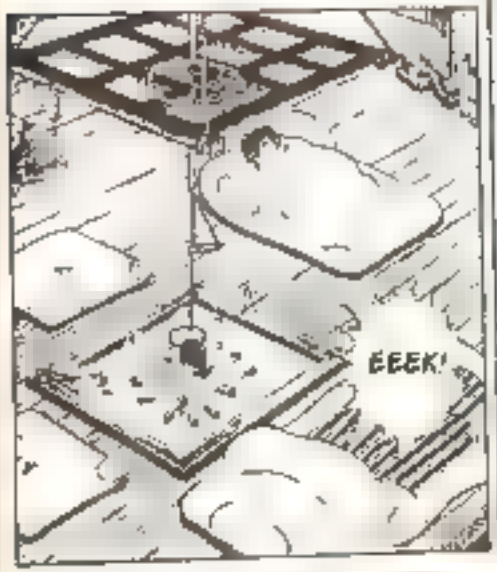
HE WAS JUST FROZEN IN FEAR.
NO
IT TOOK RIKI A WHOLE YEAR TO GET USED TO THAT SOUND.
HE DIDN'T EVEN QUIVER.
RIGHT UP CLOSE TO HIS EARS. THE SOUND WAS DREADFULL.
!?
GIN, YOU REALLY ARE AMAZING!
NOW HE'S CURIOUS. HE REALLY WAS FEARLESS OF THE SOUND?

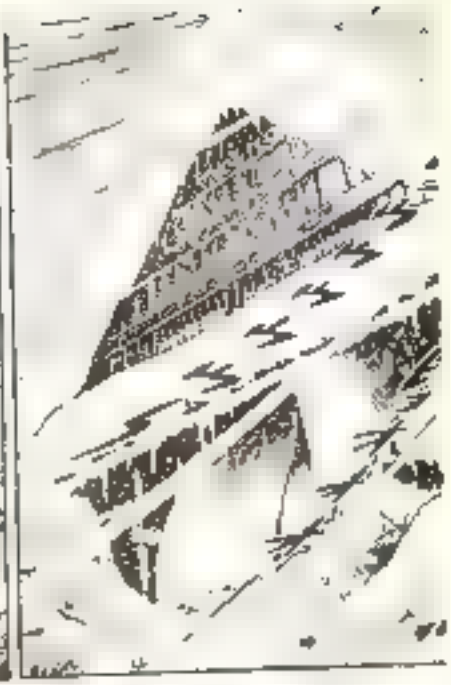



ASSHOLE! ARE YOU HITTING GIN AGAIN?!
KYAA!

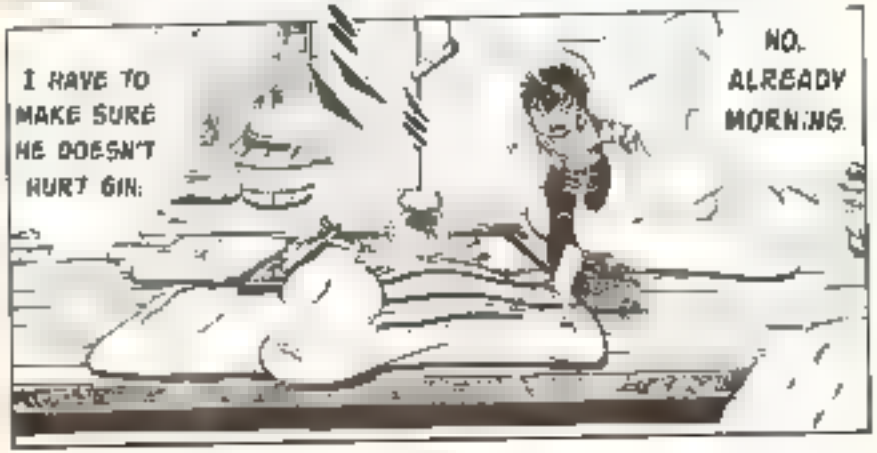
BEAR MEAT IS ALL YOU'LL GET!
EAT IT, GIN!

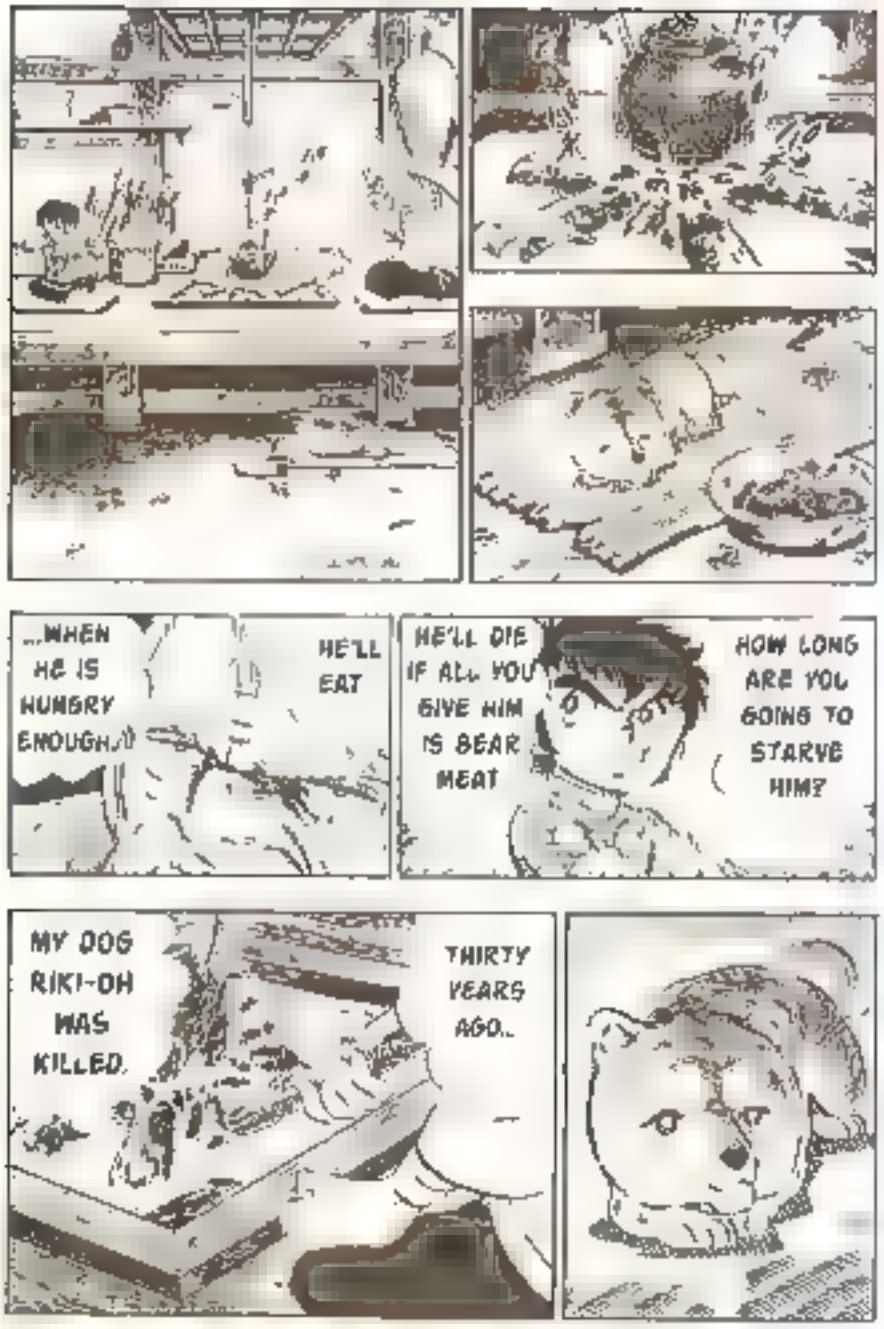

STOP IT, YOU BASTARD
STOP IT GRAND-PA!


EEEK!



GIN..?
YIPE!


I HAVE TO MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T HURT GIN.
NO. ALREADY MORNING.

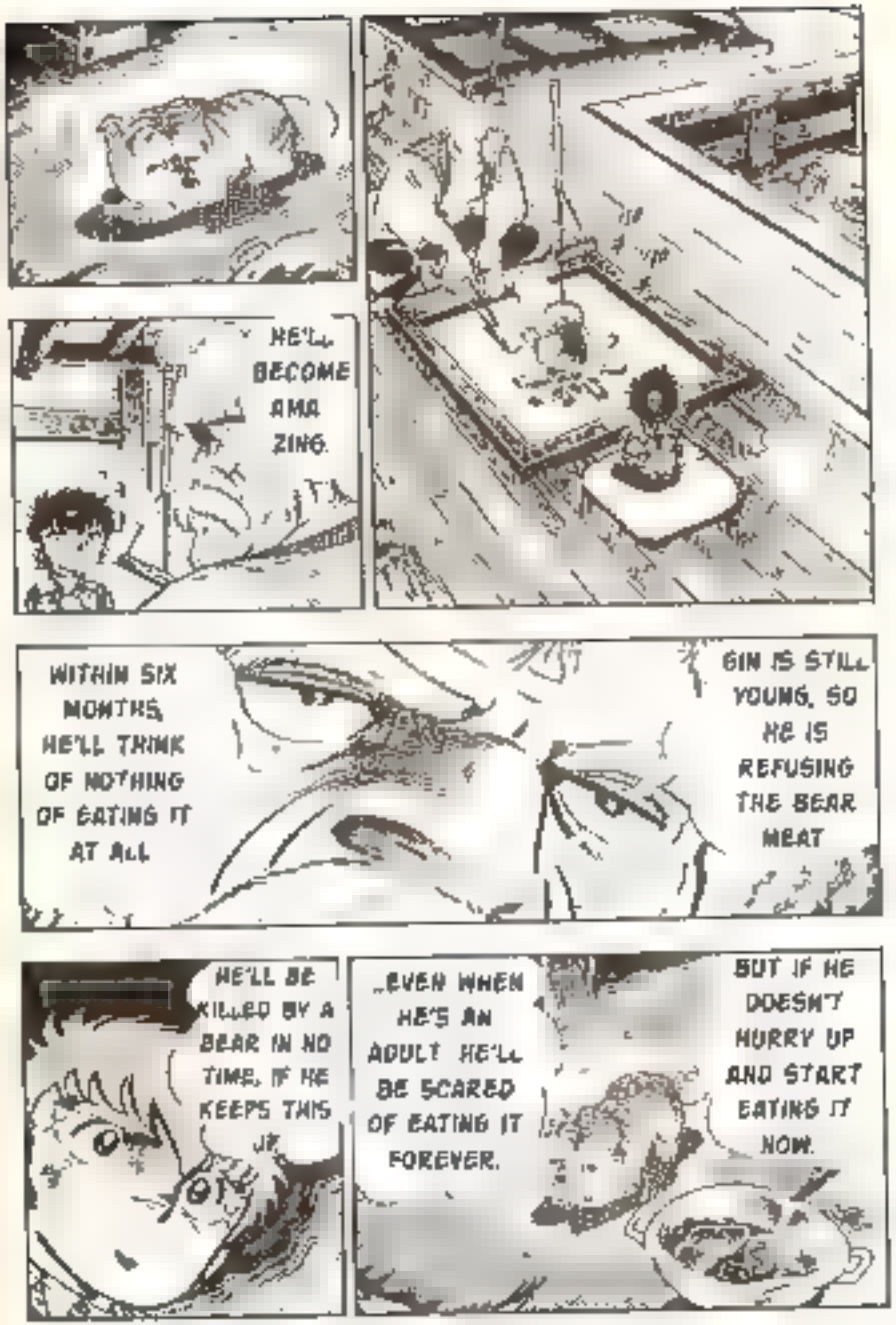

...WHEN HE IS HUNGRY ENOUGH,
HE'LL EAT
HE'LL DIE IF ALL YOU GIVE HIM IS BEAR MEAT
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO STARVE HIM?
MY DOG RIKI-OH WAS KILLED.
THIRTY YEARS AGO..

GET LOST!
...WOULD COWER WITH T'S TAIL BETWEEN IT'S LEGS.
AN ADULT DOG PRESENTED WITH BEAR MEAT.
THE SMELL OF BEAR MEAT IS STRONG AND DISGUSTING, AND EVEN ADULT DOGS HATED IT
GOHEI WAS GIVING GIN NOTHING BUT RAW BEAR MEAT TO EAT
STILL EXTREMELY YOUNG, IT WAS HORRIBLE FOR GIN.

HE BIT THE BEAR'S LEG AND DIDN'T THINK ABOUT WHERE HIS BODY WAS.
RIKI-OH WAS BRAVE IN HIS FIRST REAL BATTLE. HE RUSHED AT THE BEAR HEAD ON.
HIS BRAVERY DIDN'T SERVE HIM WELL, AND RIKI-OH WAS KILLED WITH A SINGLE BLOW TO HIS HEAD.
THAT WAS HIS ONE DOWN-FALL.
IF YOU FEED A YOUNG DOG BEAR MEAT THEY'LL BECOME A REAL BEAR HOUND.
AND FOR THE FIRST TIME I FELT LOSS.

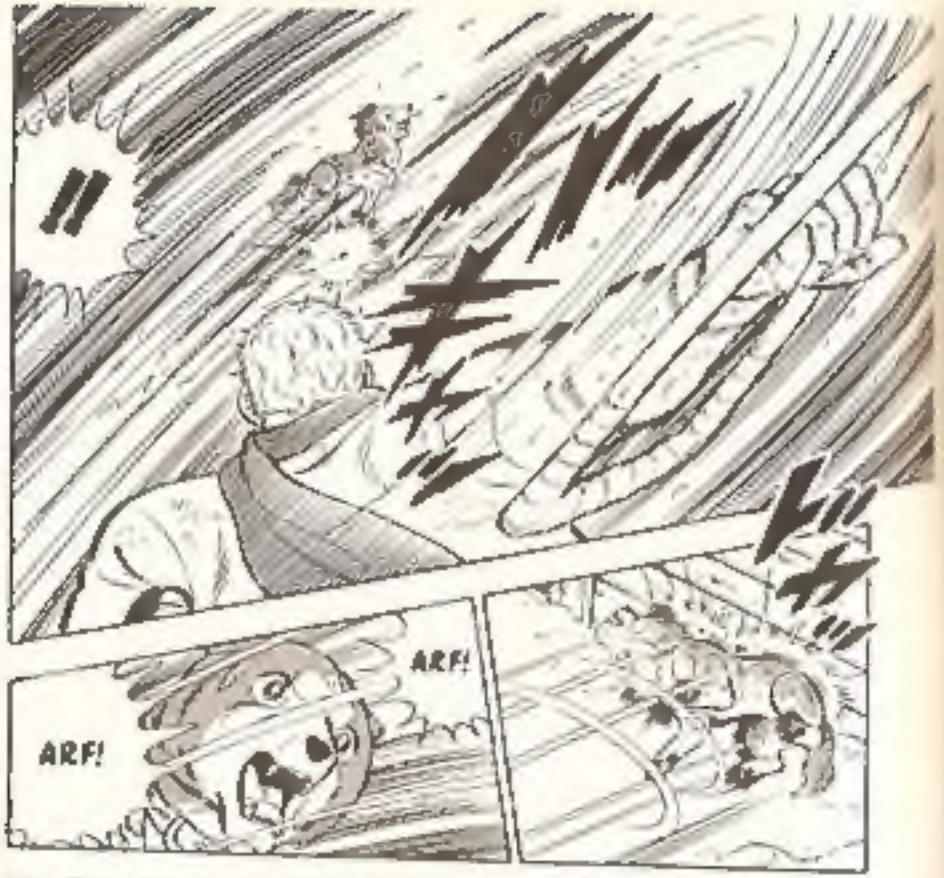
HE OVER-POWERED ANY DOG THAT CROSSED HIS PATH.
RIKI-OH WAS YOUNG, JUST TWO YEARS OLD.
HE WAS LOP-EARED AND HE WEIGHED 75 KILOS. HE WAS HUGE
I WANTED A STRONG BEARHOUND WITH THE BLOOD OF A TOSA DOG.
ALL BECAUSE I FED HIM BEAR MEAT FROM THE VERY FIRST MOMENT
HE AMAZED EVERY-ONE.
MY WISH FOR A STRONG DOG LIKE RIKI-OH HAD COME TRUE.
HE BECAME STRONG FROM THE MANY FIGHTS HE WON.

I'M NOT GOING TO STOP GOING. I'LL GO AGAIN TOMORROW.
DON'T LAUGH !
WHILE I WAS AT GRANDPA'S CABIN FOR THREE DAYS.
YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN IT MUM.
DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE BEING RUDE? HE'S AN EXPERT ON RAISING BEARHOUNDS.
YOU'RE WORRYING TOO MUCH. DAISUKE.
BEING FORCED TO EAT THAT DISGUSTING BEAR MEAT EVERYDAY.
BUT FOR GIN...
YOU GUYS LOOK SO HAPPY. BEING WITH YOUR MOMTER EVERY DAY.


HE'LL BECOME AMA ZING.
WITHIN SIX MONTHS, HE'LL THINK OF NOTHING OF EATING IT AT ALL
GIN IS STILL YOUNG, SO HE IS REFUSING THE BEAR MEAT
HE'LL BE KILLED BY A BEAR IN NO TIME, IF HE KEEPS THIS UP.
..EVEN WHEN HE'S AN ADULT HE'LL BE SCARED OF EATING IT FOREVER.
BUT IF HE DOESN'T HURRY UP AND START EATING IT NOW.

HE ESCAPED AND CAME HOME!
GIN!
DON'T! JUST LET HIM GO! GIN ISN'T OUR DOG ANYMORE.
WAIT, DAISUKE!
WHINE
WHINE
DAMN... GIN!!
IF YOU SPOIL HIM NOW, HE'LL JUST WANT TO COME BACK HERE!

ARF!
WHAT IS IT, FUJI? THE BACK DOOR...
!?


ARF!
ARF!

YAAH!
YIPE!
I JUST WON'T LET YOU ACT THIS WAY!

WHINE
WHINE

SHIT..!
GIN... DAMN!
WHY WON'T YOU LET HIM BE HEALTHY?
GRANDPA! GIN LOOKS TERRIBLE!

BASTARD
I ABSO-LUTELY CAN'T!
THIS TORA-GE IS STILL TOO YOUNG... I CAN'T LET YOU SEND GIN TO A TERRI-BLE FATE!

ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY:
KEI

EDITING BY:
WWW.GINGASITE.NET

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